Delasin wins world golf championship

STORY IN SPORTS; PAGE A15

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BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS
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NASA WPP NA AKO... MY LIPS ARE SEALED

Gift or gag? Ador under gov't guard

BY C. YAMSUAN

WAS it an early birthday gift—or a means to shut him up for now?

Angelo "Ador" Mawanay, who turns 29 on Oct. 15,

GIFT/ A13

WHAT'S INSIDE

- **RP backs US-led attacks** NEWS / A2
- **Stocks slump on war jitters** BUSINESS / B1
- **GSIS chief hit over Napocor** NEWS / A5
- **100 die in Milan plane collision** WORLD / A10

It's only the beginning

Bush: Campaign 'sustained, relentless'

WASHINGTON—It was only the beginning.

But already, the Americans and the British were preparing for the next round of strikes in the campaign against terrorism.

The first military counterblow on Sunday to the terrorist attacks on America was a bomb-and-bread operation. US-led forces rained firepower on the al-Qaida network and Taliban strongholds, then dropped off food for the Afghan population.

The strike was the first major military action to bolster the diplomatic, economic and financial anti-terrorism campaign started after the Sept. 11 attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.

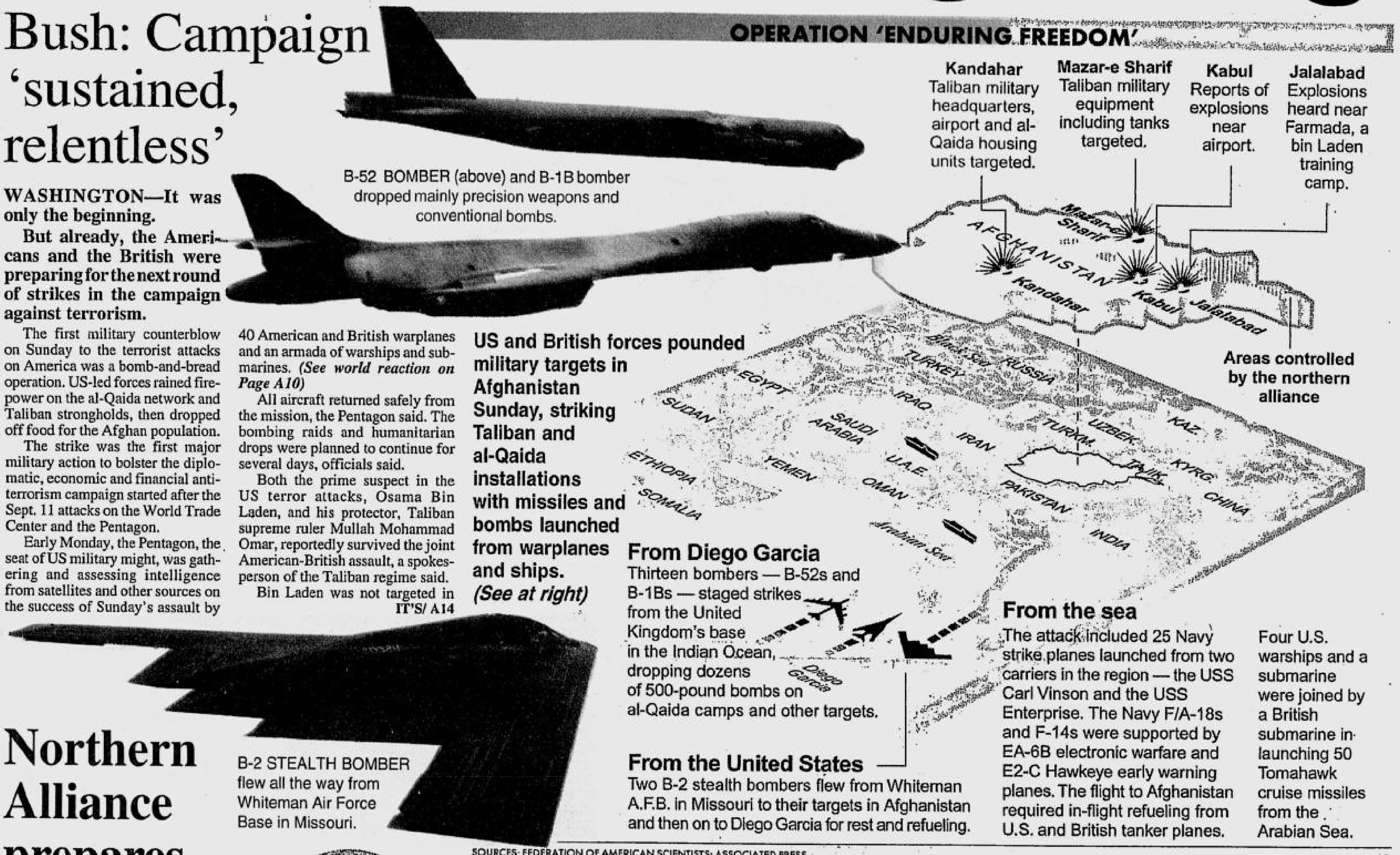
Early Monday, the Pentagon, the seat of US military might, was gathering and assessing intelligence from satellites and other sources on the success of Sunday's assault by 40 American and British warplanes and an armada of warships and submarines. *(See world reaction on Page A10)*

All aircraft returned safely from the mission, the Pentagon said. The bombing raids and humanitarian drops were planned to continue for several days, officials said.

Both the prime suspect in the US terror attacks, Osama Bin Laden, and his protector, Taliban supreme ruler Mullah Mohammad Omar, reportedly survived the joint American-British assault, a spokesperson of the Taliban regime said.

Bin Laden was not targeted in

IT'S/ A14



B-52 BOMBER (above) and B-1B bomber dropped mainly precision weapons and conventional bombs.

Kandahar Taliban military headquarters, airport and al-Qaida housing units targeted.

Mazar-e Sharif Taliban military equipment including tanks targeted.

Kabul Reports of explosions near airport.

Jalalabad Explosions heard near Farmada, a bin Laden training camp.

Areas controlled by the northern alliance

US and British forces pounded military targets in Afghanistan Sunday, striking Taliban and al-Qaida installations with missiles and bombs launched from warplanes and ships. *(See at right)*

From Diego Garcia
Thirteen bombers — B-52s and B-1Bs — staged strikes from the United Kingdom's base in the Indian Ocean, dropping dozens of 500-pound bombs on al-Qaida camps and other targets.

From the sea
The attack included 25 Navy strike planes launched from two carriers in the region — the USS Carl Vinson and the USS Enterprise. The Navy F/A-18s and F-14s were supported by EA-6B electronic warfare and E2-C Hawkeye early warning planes. The flight to Afghanistan required in-flight refueling from U.S. and British tanker planes.

Four U.S. warships and a submarine were joined by a British submarine in launching 50 Tomahawk cruise missiles from the Arabian Sea.

From the United States
Two B-2 stealth bombers flew from Whiteman A.F.B. in Missouri to their targets in Afghanistan and then on to Diego Garcia for rest and refueling.

B-2 STEALTH BOMBER flew all the way from Whiteman Air Force Base in Missouri.

SOURCES: FEDERATION OF AMERICAN SCIENTISTS; ASSOCIATED PRESS

AP

Northern Alliance prepares offensive

TEHRAN, Iran—The opposition Northern Alliance is preparing for a major offensive against Afghanistan's ruling Taliban while US forces bombard the regime's power bases, a top strategist for the anti-Taliban militia said yesterday.

"We are in a state of absolute readiness," Touryali Ghiasi told The Associated Press from his base in the eastern Iranian City of Mashhad. "We are preparing to move."

Ghiasi, who was a top aide to slain Northern Alliance commander Ahmed Shah Massood, said the latest campaign of the Afghan opposition coalition could begin as early as Tuesday.

He gave no details of the immediate military objectives of the alliance, which holds about 10 percent of Afghanistan.

An official of the opposition government-in-exile in Tajikistan's capital said they were preparing offensives on key cities.

"We are ready. We are waiting for a good opportunity to start a fresh offensive on Kabul and Mazar-al-Sharif and other parts of the country," Col. Abdul Qudussy, military attaché at the embassy in Dushanbe, told reporters.

But Pakistan President Gen. Pervez Musharraf said Afghanistan's opposition should not try to take advantage of the US and British mili-

NORTHERN/ A14

WAR without borders

'Philippine Sea' fired 5 Tomahawks

ABOARD THE USS PHILIPPINE SEA—Five of the 50 Tomahawk cruise missiles fired at Afghanistan were launched from this US cruiser.

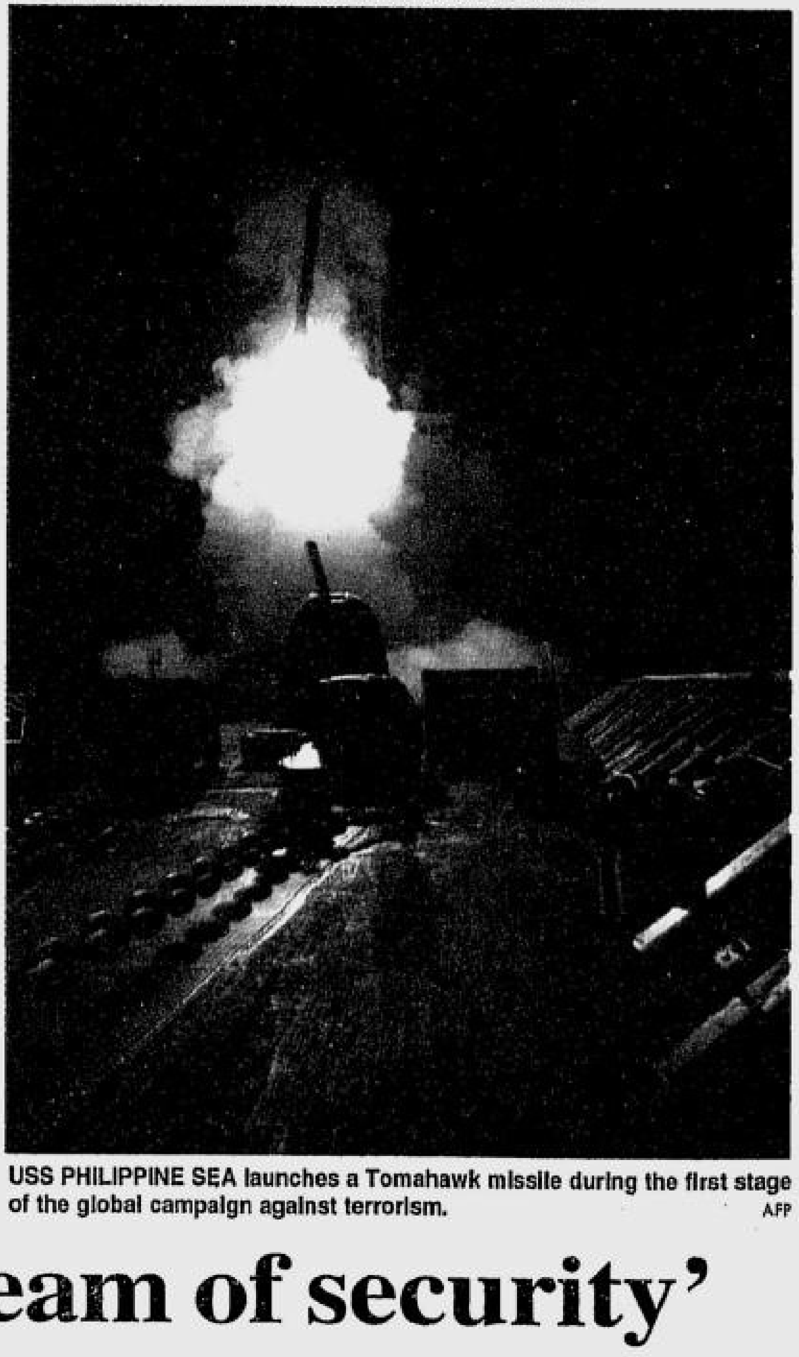
Four of the five Tomahawks went off smoothly, beginning at 6:56 p.m. local time (10:56 p.m. Manila time). But one of the missiles misfired, failing to clear the launcher.

The captain of the ship said a Tomahawk from another ship would be fired at the failed missile's intended target. The fourth, planned for launch at 7:03 p.m. local time, misfired and failed to leave the launcher. It lighted up the sea and aft deck until it burned out.

Tiny bits of hot metal rained down. Photographers and some sailors in the area took cover near the Harpoon launchers. Nobody was hurt.

An announcement was issued: "Restrained firing aft. Restrained

PHILIPPINE/ A13



USS PHILIPPINE SEA launches a Tomahawk missile during the first stage of the global campaign against terrorism. AFP

AFP: Soldiers kill 21 Abus in Basilan clashes

BY CARLITO PABLO

AT LEAST 21 Abu Sayyaf members have been killed as fighting between Army soldiers and the notorious bandit group entered its second day yesterday in Barangay Balatanay in Isabela City, military authorities said.

"We are still pressing on," Brig. Gen. Edilberto Adan, Armed Forces spokesperson, said.

Lt. Gen. Roy Cimatu, chief of the military's Southern Command, said 21 other Abu Sayyaf members were wounded in running gun battles with Scout Rangers and Army regulars.

As of 10:45 a.m. yesterday, 17 soldiers had been reported wounded in the clashes.

Cimatu said he had received field reports confirming that Khadaffy Janjalani headed the bandit group and that another Abu Sayyaf leader, Isnilon Hapilon, was among those wounded.

The clashes were among the fiercest since the military began an offensive in May against the Abu Sayyaf bandits, who are holding an American couple among about 18 hostages, officials said.

AFP/ A12

Abu Sayyaf bombs 2 hotels in Zambo.

ZAMBOANGA CITY—The Abu Sayyaf yesterday bombed two hotels in Zamboanga City as the military stepped up its offensive against the bandit group in Basilan, officials said.

The blasts occurred about four hours after the United States and Britain launched air strikes on Afghanistan.

A homemade bomb scoured a wall of a room at the Paradise Hotel on Barcelona Street in Zamboanga City at around 3:45 a.m., said Chief Supt. Simeon Dizon, Philippine National Police director for Western Mindanao.

Fifteen minutes later, another homemade bomb tore off part of a ceiling of a room at the Imperial Hotel on the corner of Pura Brillantes and Campaner Streets, Dizon said in a report to PNP Director General Leandro Mendoza. Both rooms were unoccupied.

Police ordnance experts disarmed a third explosive device outside the Platinum Hotel here.

Army Col. Alexander Yano, commander of a Zamboanga-based anti-terrorist task force, said no one was hurt in the blast.

"Apparently, these were very amateurish kinds of bombs that were planted in the three hotels," presidential spokesperson Rigoberto Tiglao said in Malacañang.

National Security Adviser Roilo

ABU/ A12

US will never 'dream of security'

AMERICA will never "dream of security" until its armies leave holy Arab lands, prime terrorist suspect Osama bin Laden was shown saying on international television as US missiles rained Sunday night on Afghanistan.

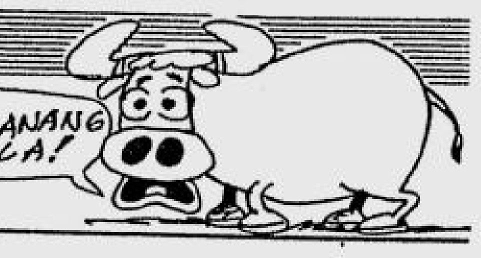
The Saudi dissident, wearing fatigues and with an AK-47 rifle at his side, championed the cause of long-suffering Palestinians and sanctions-stricken Iraqis as he rallied the world's 1.2 billion Muslims behind his "jihad" to liberate the cradle of Islam from US forces.

In doing so, he might have "won the hearts of Muslims from Indonesia to the Caribbean," a Saudi journalist who has known Bin Laden for years said Monday.

Qatar's Al-Jazeera television station first aired Bin Laden's comments Sunday in an undated videotape, excerpts of which continued to appear on air Monday. The Al-Jazeera video was also aired by CNN.

"I swear by God . . . neither America nor the people who live in it will dream of security before we live it in Palestine, and not before

US/ A14


'WAG SANANG LUMALA!

RP backs US-led attacks

BY JULIET L. JAVELLANA

THE PHILIPPINES expressed yesterday its support for the "just offensive" launched by American and British forces against Osama bin Laden's al-Qaida terror network and Taliban military facilities in Afghanistan.

"The strikes against al-Qaida and the military facilities of the Taliban regime in Afghanistan are the start of a just offensive, whose objective is to rid mankind of the most ruthless and brutal terrorist organization in modern times," said President Macapagal-Arroyo, through her spokesperson Rigoberto Tiglao.

The President noted that the nighttime strikes were carried out with maximum restraint and were accompanied by humanitarian food and medicine drops for the impoverished Afghan people.

'Unparalleled restraint'

"The United States and its allies have demonstrated unparalleled restraint, waiting almost a month after the Sept. 11 tragedy to exhaust all diplomatic and peaceful means to persuade the Taliban to hand over the al-Qaida leaders," the President said.

"The justness of the campaign is also demonstrated by the fact that it is supported and joined by most nations of the civilized world, including Muslim-dominated countries," Ms Macapagal added.

The President noted that in the Philippines, "most Muslim organizations, including the Moro National Liberation Front and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front, have condemned the ferocious, brutal Sept. 11 attacks on the US."

She urged Filipinos to support the US-led offensive even as some officials expressed the hope the war would be contained within Afghanistan.

Solidarity

"The President urges the Filipino people, irrespective of creed and political beliefs, to support the coalition's campaign, as an opportunity to demonstrate our unity and solidarity for a historic and just cause," Tiglao said at a noon news briefing.

Tiglao and National Security Adviser Roilo Golez said the administration is hoping the war would not spill over to Pakistan and other Middle East nations, where over one million Filipinos work.

"One assessment is that with the US' very calculated approach to Afghanistan, (the war) might be contained (there). We're hoping the conflict won't spill into Pakistan," Golez said at the same briefing.

Golez said the use of precision bombers and other state-of-the-art weaponry indicates it would be a "clean war" with minimum civilian casualties.

"We are hoping this will be a war with minimal collateral damage," he said.

Tiglao said that after the strikes on Afghanistan were launched, the President immediately convened a "long meeting" of the Cabinet oversight committee on internal security.

The committee, headed by Executive Secretary Alberto Romulo, is charged with coordinating all government actions against terrorism.

Tiglao said that at the meeting, Golez and National Intelligence Coordinating Agency and Philippine National Police officials gave their assessments of the military strikes.

"We feel that all our contingency plans and alert statuses are in place and the situation is under control," Tiglao said.

Tiglao said the committee focused on three issues—preventing the Abu Sayyaf and other terrorist groups from taking advantage of the situation in Afghanistan; ensuring the security of vital installations in the country; and preparing for the repatriation of one million Filipinos from the Middle East, should this become necessary.

"The PNP and the Armed Forces of the Philippines were instructed to augment security at our vital installations and to make sure contingency plans are ready for any eventualities arising from the air strikes," Golez said.

Golez said President Macapagal was given advance notice of the US-led strikes.

US Embassy chargé d'affaires Robert Fitts called the President up shortly after midnight to give her notice of the imminent bombardment, Golez said.

"In fact, after the (notice) was conveyed to the President, the strike was shown live on CNN," he added.

"This shows the Philippines is being treated with courtesy as an ally in the coalition," he said.

Golez said that after seeing the first phase of the US-led strike, the possibility that Philippine troops would be sent to the fighting has become "extremely remote."

Militants oppose US air offensive

BY MICHAEL LIM UBAC
NORMAN BORDADORA
AND CHRISTIAN V. ESGUERRA

DISPARATE groups yesterday were one in condemning the United States-led air strikes on Afghanistan designed to smoke out Osama bin Laden and punish the ruling Taliban regime for supporting him.

The militant Bagong Alyansang Makabayan, Kilusang Magbubukid ng Pilipinas, youth group Anakbayan and migrants' group Migrante protested in front of the US Embassy in Manila, branding the air strikes a "war of aggression against a sovereign nation."

Some 30 protesters faced off with riot police twice their number in front of the embassy which was closed for a US holiday, according to Agence France Presse. No untoward incidents were reported.

Bayan secretary general Teodoro Casiño said that if yesterday's attack on Kabul was a prelude to a global war, "we shudder to think what could come next."

"Instead of ending the cycle of death, the US has caused it to spin faster than ever. By ordering their own attacks on cities with large civilian populations, (US President George W.) Bush and (British Prime Minister Tony) Blair have formally assumed the title of 'Butchers of the Afghan People,'" Casiño said.

Christians, Muslims

Churches, militant church groups and Muslim officials also condemned the attacks that began at about 10 p.m. Sunday, Kabul time.

The National Council of Churches in the Philippines also deplored the assistance being given by other countries to the US as blind subservience to the world's remaining superpower.

"The US government, by launching air strikes, has shown a shameful insensitivity to the call of the world's people for restraint and sobriety, and the use of peaceful and diplomatic means to handle the situation," said Bishop Tomas Millamena, NCCP chairman, in a statement.

"And when the US President says the military attacks were accompanied by food, medicine and supplies for the suffering because Afghanistan is a friend of America, he only exposes a rhetoric that is impossible to fathom," Millamena added.

The Promotion of Church People's Response, an organization of Catholic bishops, Protestant pastors and other religious, also condemned the air attacks on Afghanistan.

"Isn't it ironic that American media reported extensive humanitarian aid to the Afghan people on the day that President Bush declared the first phase of US military strikes that are bound to aggravate the sufferings of Afghans?" asked Bishop Allan Ray Sarte, chairman of the PCPR.

Officials of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao and other Muslim leaders denounced what they described was an "imperialistic" attack by the US on Afghanistan.

Al Hussein Lorena, ARMM labor regional secretary, called for an immediate stop to the military assault and for a solution to "pursue the path of peace" in the conflict.

Diplomatic solution

Prof. Taha Basman, president of the Philippine Islamic Council, said his group was "saddened" by the attacks and called for a diplomatic resolution to the crisis.

He said the assaults were carried out despite calls by different religious groups for the US not to take vengeance through military action but through peaceful negotiations.

The Muslim community in Eastern Visayas condemned the attack, saying the air strikes would affect many innocent civilians.

Usman Comarandang, spokesperson of the 900-strong Muslim United Foundation of Tacloban Inc. (Mufti), said it was inhumane for the US and its allies to attack Afghanistan because women, children and old men would be affected.

Comarandang said they will offer prayers for the Afghani civilians but they will not hold a public rally because "we might be suspected of being sympathizers of Bin Laden."

Muslim leaders in Cebu said they were saddened by the attack on Afghanistan.

"It is sad to hear the news. Let us pray so the world leaders will be enlightened and peace can be attained," said Hadji Nashir Ismael, chair of the Metro Cebu Muslim Peace and Order Council.

Nothing to do with Islam

Ismael declined to comment, however, when asked if the US made the right decision in attacking Afghanistan. The attack on Afghanistan had nothing to do with religion or Islam, in particular, was all he would say.

"Let us all pray that the attacks on Taliban targets in Afghanistan will not lead to a holy war that could spread worldwide," said Baxier Alonto, spokesperson of the Muslim Islamic Center in Bacolod City.

"We are not part of what is happening in Afghanistan. We pray to Allah to help us for the sake of the entire world," he said.

Abdul Gafar, vice president of the Muslim Brotherhood Association in Bacolod, said they too were praying for peace.

He said he did not agree with the attack on Afghanistan. "The Americans should only look for the terrorists, not pounce on an entire nation," Gafar said.

Thousands of peasants and fisherfolk from Southern and Central Luzon will mount a caravan to Manila next week to denounce the US military offensive in Afghanistan.

Dubbed the "People's Caravan Against US Plunder and Terrorist Attack," the protesters led by the Kilusang Magbubukid ng Pilipinas and Pamalakaya will march from different Luzon provinces on Monday and are expected to arrive in Manila Thursday night. ***With Andrea T. Echavez, Jerome Aning and PDI Visayas Bureau and AFP reports***

Flights over war zone diverted

BY ABIGAIL L. HO

THE AIR Transportation Office said all flights passing through Karachi in Pakistan would take a different route in light of the United States air attacks on Taliban lairs early yesterday morning.

ATO chief Adelberto Yap yesterday said all airlines with flights bound for Europe had given the ATO an advisory that their flights to and from the Philippines would have to circumvent the Karachi stopovers by diverting to New Delhi, Saudi Arabia and Thailand.

He said this would not affect costs or flying time because the new route would not take the flights too far off course.

"The other countries are near Karachi so the added (flying minutes) are almost negligible. There will also be no added cost to the airlines because of this," he said.

Even with the route diversion though, Yap said it was still dangerous for planes to fly near the Pakistani and Afghan airspace as stray missiles could hit these aircraft.

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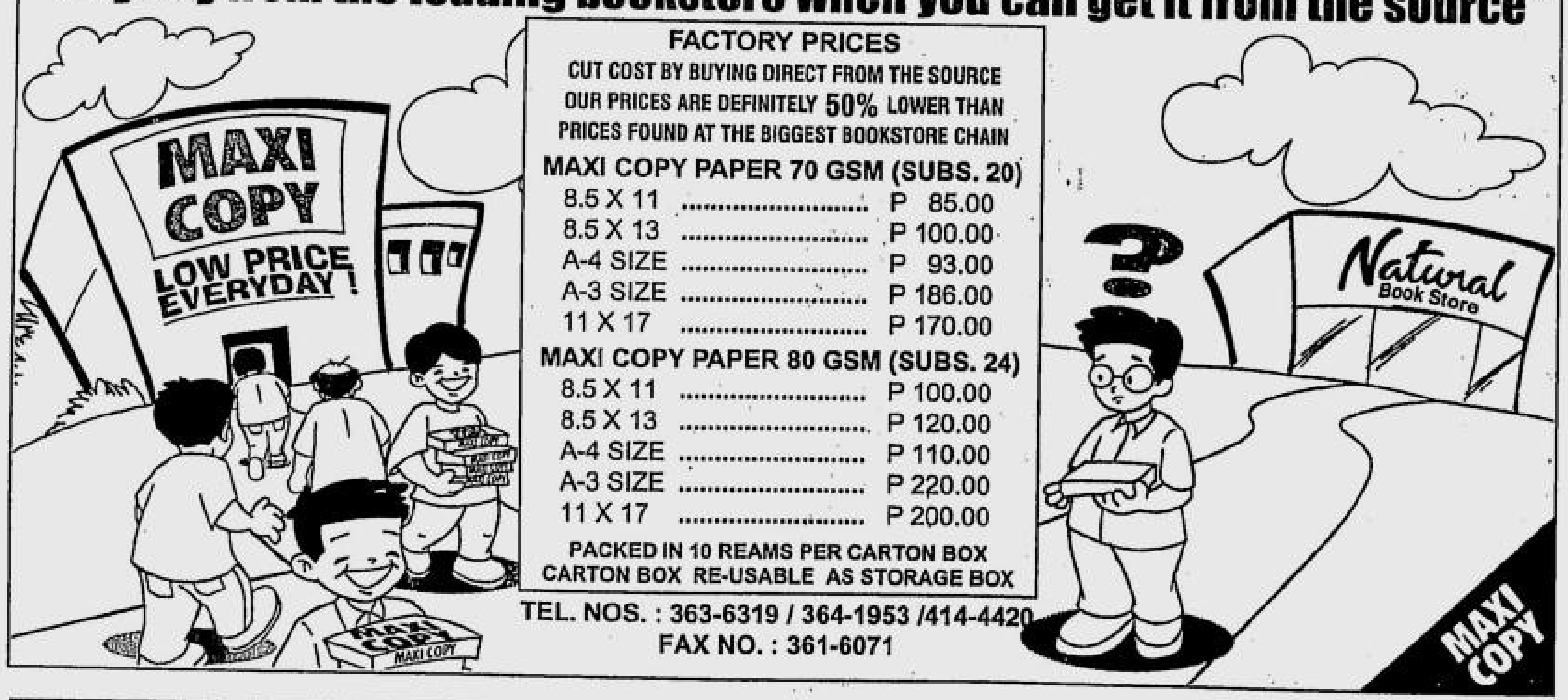
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US HOSTAGE

Is Sobero dead? Shirt, bones hold answer

By Carlito Pablo

WAS Guillermo Sobero wearing blue sandals and a white shirt when he was led away to be beheaded by the Abu Sayyaf?

These items were recovered from a shallow grave 500 meters southwest of the Basilan Peak in the town of Tipo-Tipo, Basilan, along with the left and right thigh bones of a person believed to be the Peruvian-American.

Military spokesperson Brig. Gen. Edilberto Adan said that aside from DNA testing, these articles will provide clues whether the headless skeletal remains recovered over the weekend were indeed, those of Sobero, one of the 20 hostages taken from the Dos Palmas resort in Palawan on May 27 .

"We are getting in touch with the former Dos Palmas hostages to match these items with what he was then wearing," Adan said.

Based on previous testimonies by the released hostages, Sobero was tied and separated from them late on the night of June 11 and was not seen since then.

The next day, June 12, the Abu Sayyaf announced that he was beheaded as an "Independence Day gift" to President Macapagal-Arroyo.

Adan said the sandals were blue while the white shirt had red markings. Aside from these, a blue nylon rope was also found in the grave.

Adan said the two femurs (thigh bones) were the only skeletal remains recovered from the grave and which could be subject to DNA tests.

"Not even ribs were found. The area is noted for wild boars and these animals may have scattered the remains," Adan said.

But a report from the Armed Forces Southern Command regarding the recovery had two details which were different from that of Adan who has a photograph of said remains.

The Southcom report said the blue nylon cord was tied around the hands of the victim and the white shirt had a blue stripe.

In a separate interview, AFP chief Gen. Diomedio Villanueva stressed that there is still no scientific confirmation that the remains earlier found were those of Sobero.

"But according to (Southcom chief) General (Roy) Cimatu, they are positive that those belong to Sobero," Villanueva said. "We'll just have to wait for the official report."

Travel advisory unfair–Palace

MALACAÑANG yesterday described the US travel ban against travel in Mindanao as "unfair."

To counter this, a group of Cabinet officials is set to meet the US chargé d'affaires concerning the issue today.

"There are discussions within the Cabinet oversight committee (on internal security) and the Department of Foreign Affairs if it could convince the Americans to, as they have done before, clarify which parts of Mindanao are really risky," presidential spokesperson Rigoberto Tiglao said.

"They had identified this before—Sulu, Tawi-Tawi, perhaps Central Maguindanao. But it's quite unfair to say that the entire Mindanao is unsafe," he added.

He cited some major urban centers—Cagayan de Oro, Davao City and Gen. Santos City—where no Abu Sayyaf operation supposedly occurred.

National Security Adviser Roilo Golez said that he, together with DFA, tourism and police officials, would meet with US chargé d'affaires Robert Fitts in a bid to convince the US government that the information they got was "not accurate."

"We'll meet so that we can identify where exactly are their problem areas and why, so that we can always claim that perhaps the information that they got was inaccurate," Golez said.

"For example, if they cannot categorize the entire Southern Philippines, they should focus on the Basilan-Sulu area where the problem is. But outside of that, it's not anymore a problem," he added.

The US State Department on Friday issued a travel advisory warning US citizens about the danger of travel to the Philippines.

It cited the kidnapping of foreigners, bombings and other violent incidents, adding that Americans may be at increased risk of terrorist actions as a result of the Sept. 1 attacks.

2 Pinoys in Saudi blast safe

THE TWO Filipinos injured in an explosion in Saudi Arabia Saturday have been declared out of danger.

The Philippine Embassy in Riyadh yesterday reported that Diosdado Paylomo, 37, married, and Richard dela Rosa, 33, married, were "in good condition."

They are confined at the King Fahd University Hospital in Khobar city in eastern Saudi Arabia.

"They are out of danger and according to one account they are in good condition," said Department of Foreign Affairs spokesperson Victoriano Lecaros.

He said the two OFWs suffered damage to the eardrums from the explosion, but did not sustain shrapnel wounds.

In its report to the DFA, the embassy said the second casualty, which remains unidentified, was "not Asian."

Lecaros added that there was "no concrete indication" that the explosion was connected to the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on the United States.

"The incident is being treated as unrelated to what's happening in Afghanistan," he said.

Two people were killed, one of them an American, while four people were hurt when a bomb exploded inside an electronics shop in Khobar Saturday night.

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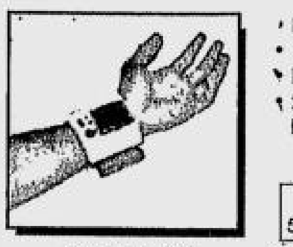

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ERRATUM

The Awarding Ceremonies for the Bedans of the Century will be on **Saturday, October 27, 2001** and not on October 23, 2001 as previously announced.

Senate allies want to probe Mike A

BY ARMAND N. NOCUM AND MARTIN P. MARFIL

ADMINISTRATION senators sought yesterday to wrest control of the Senate inquiry into an alleged PCSO scam involving First Gentleman Mike Arroyo from the opposition, amid fears of a witch-hunt by the Palace.

Although administration senators initially failed to get their way, they succeeded in deferring the start of the investigation this week, as originally scheduled by the opposition.

In a hotly debated session, both groups stuck to their respective stands, forcing Majority Floor Leader Loren Legarda to defer arguments on the matter.

The issue was originally referred to the committee on constitutional amendments, revision of codes and laws chaired by opposition Sen. Edgardo Angara.

"The recurring theme of the privilege speech of (Sen. Panfilo Lacson) was the misuse of Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office (funds). It is clearly a question of malfeasance," Sen. John Osmeña said in a speech where he expressed confusion over the Senate decision to refer to various committees at least three issues involving the PCSO.

Last week, the opposition sought an investigation into unclaimed prizes at the PCSO and this was referred to the committee on finance under Osmeña.

Malacañang said yesterday the case against the First Gentleman has not really progressed as his accusers have not come out with their evidence.

"It hasn't really moved. One problem is the evidence hasn't been submitted by Senator Lacson and even the affidavit of (Robert) Rivero hasn't been publicly disclosed, much less given to the proper bodies," presidential spokesperson Rigoberto Tiglao said in a press briefing.

Arroyo has been accused of heading a "Department of the Underground" that milked the PCSO of P250 million to finance the campaigns of four administration senatorial candidates in the last elections.

Arroyo has denied the allegations that were made by former PCSO media consultant Robert Rivero.

At the same time, the Senate minority coalition sought yesterday a clarification on whether the inquiry into criminal allegations against Lacson had been terminated.

Senate Minority Leader Aquilino Pimentel Jr. wrote Senators Robert Barbers, Ramon Magsaysay Jr. and Joker Arroyo, chairmen of the three committees conducting the inquiry, to reconvene "one or two meetings" before preparing the committee report.

Pimentel said he wanted to find out if the hearings had been terminated because he heard a report on the radio.

For his part, Bayan Muna Rep. Crispin Beltran yesterday chided Lacson for "deliberately and maliciously diverting public attention from his own crimes."

In a press statement, Beltran said Lacson "should not be allowed to redirect public attention from the accusations against him by pointing a finger at presidential husband Mike Arroyo."

"If there is a strong case against the President's husband, then it should be investigated in the proper venues," Beltran said.

"This should not mean, however, that Lacson should be allowed to go free now that public scrutiny has been redirected (to Arroyo)," Beltran said. *With Christine O. Avendaño and Rocky Nazareno*

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ERAP TRIAL

Defense presents case against Sandigan justices

BY DONNA S. CUETO

THE LAWYERS of former President Joseph Estrada yesterday criticized the Sandiganbayan's Third Division handling the plunder case, citing at least five instances when they "felt discomfited because of late rulings."

In a seven-page compliance, the lawyers said that the court had issued very late decisions or sometimes, not at all, allowing events to supersede or make moot and academic motions they had filed.

The document was filed in compliance with the order of Associate Justice Teresita Leonarda-de Castro made in open court Friday, directing the defense to present the instances when the court issued last-minute decisions or resolutions that prevented the defense from seeking a timely reconsideration.

The first case cited by the defense lawyers was the release of a resolution denying the motion to quash the plunder case filed by Estrada's son, Jinggoy, in April. The resolution was issued "after office hours" on the eve of the July 10 arraignment of the Estradas in the plunder case.

Unfair

The defense said this late issuance of the resolution was "unfair" since it rendered impossible any move for reconsideration or the securing of a last-minute temporary restraining order from the Supreme Court.

The second case cited was the defense's motion to inhibit the chair of the division, Associate Justice Anacleto Badoy Jr., who issued a ruling denying the petition on the date of the pre-trial hearing itself on Sept. 3.

Before that, the defense asked the court to resolve the motion earlier that day before the hearing so they could move for reconsideration. But the ruling was issued on the very hour of the pre-trial, rejecting the defense's motion with "finality."

The third case was when the defense got a copy of the pre-trial order on Sept. 13 during the scheduled signing of the pre-trial order.

"Only one copy of it was given at 2:30 p.m. for the three accused and their counsel to review on the spot, in single-spaced form, comprising 32 pages, and this Honorable Court, commenced proceedings shortly thereafter without us having read the same."

Fourth case

The fourth instance was when the court set the Oct. 1 trial without first resolving the motions to defer the trial by the defense lawyers, including one filed on Sept. 19.

"This would never be acted on now as it has been mooted and denied by implication, which creates confusion. A quick explicit denial would have been preferable," the defense's compliance read.

The fifth instance cited was the way the court failed to resolve the motion filed by the younger Estrada to be allowed to administer the oath of office to Sen. Loi Estrada on June 29, and the former President's motion to be allowed to witness his wife's and his son JV Ejercito's oath-taking.

Two justices of the court noted above their signatures in the resolution that the matter had been mooted when the resolution reached them, as it was already way past 2 p.m. on June 29 when the resolution penned by Badoy was brought for their study and signing.

Gloria stands by Loi's man

BY JULIET L. JAVELLANA

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo is standing by Rufus Rodriguez, whom she has appointed as the country's next ambassador to Germany, despite criticisms on his competence and his being a vocal lawyer for the opposition during and after the May 14 elections.

"As is her practice, she takes into account all criticisms (against her appointees), but as of the moment she is standing by her decision to appoint Attorney Rodriguez," the President's spokesperson Rigoberto Tiglao said in a news briefing yesterday.

Tiglao said the President's allies in the People Power Coalition have not made any formal opposition to Rodriguez, who acted as lawyer for the opposition Puwersa ng Masa and chief of staff of Sen. Luisa "Loi" Estrada.

Rodriguez also served as immigration commissioner under the Estrada administration.

An unnamed PPC senator had been reported as opposing Rodriguez's appointment because of his association with the opposition.

Rodriguez led the PnM in contesting the results of the May 14 elections, accusing the administration PPC of cheating in favor of its candidates.

"So far in the Commission on Appointments, there has been no clear or articulated opposition to the appointment of Rodriguez and I suppose this would come up during the CA's formal hearings," Tiglao said.

The President last Friday defended her choice of Rodriguez as ambassador to Germany, seen as among the most important diplomatic posts.

She said she initially wanted Rodriguez to stay on as immigration commissioner but the "Edsa 2 forces" prevailed in nominating Andrea Domingo. She said she then asked Rodriguez as early as January to serve as ambassador.

PRESIDENT DIOSDADO MACAPAGAL MONUMENT TO BE UNVEILED AT PAMANTASAN CAMPUS

'The Poor Boy From Lubao': A Legacy of Free Education for the Poor

As a lasting tribute to a man who overcame poverty and became one of the country's greatest presidents, the **Pamantasan ng Lungsod ng Maynila** (PLM), spearheaded by the PLM Alumni Association headed by **Regent Aguinaldo L. Miravalles**, is building a monument of **President Diosdado Macapagal** at the center of the university campus. The late president's daughter, **President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo**, is expected to inaugurate the monument.

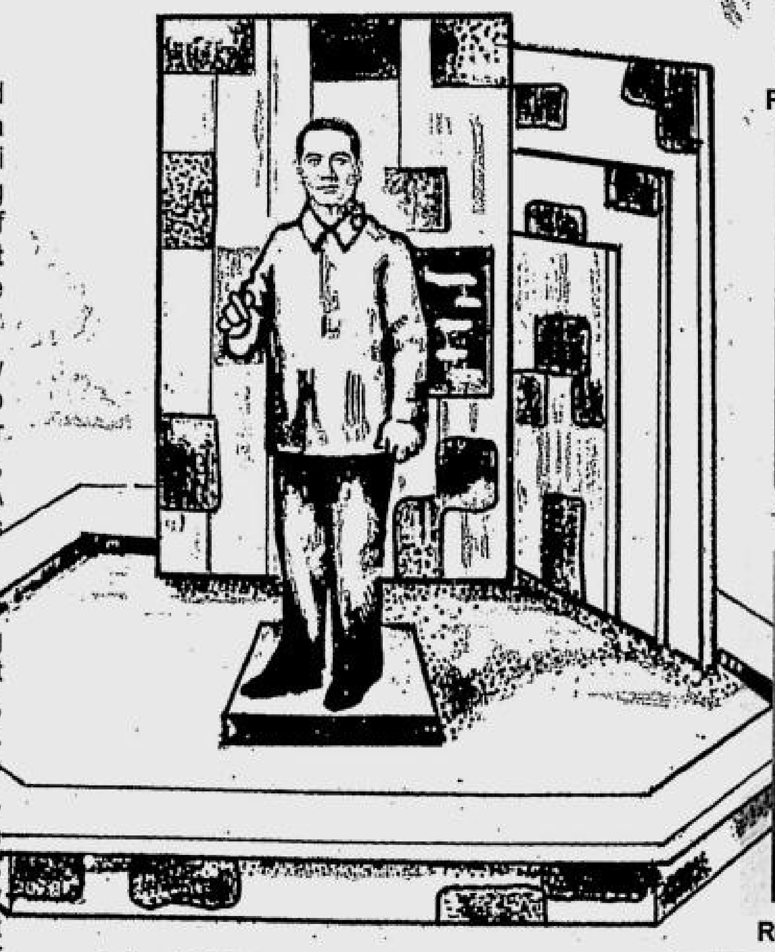
It was President Diosdado Macapagal who signed into law Republic Act No: 4196, "An Act Authorizing the City of Manila to Establish and Operate the University of the City of Manila and for Other Purposes", on June 19, 1965. Much earlier on April 24, 1965, Pres. Macapagal issued Presidential Proclamation No. 392-A bequeathing to PLM its present site, a three-hectare lot in Intramuros formerly occupied by the Manila High School.

The Pamantasan is the first municipal university in the Philippines. It is the first free university in the Philippines, providing high quality college education to financially disadvantaged but talented youth. A project of the late Manila Mayor Antonio J. Villegas, the city-run university opened its doors to 556 scholars in July 1967. In its 35 years of existence, PLM has produced over 50,000 scholar-graduates, many of them now leaders in government and business. Among the distinguished alumni of PLM are a presidential assistant, cabinet assistant secretary, NEDA deputy director, mayor, governor, congressmen, senator, president of a private university, and many others. "PLM epitomizes the truism that education is the great equalizer that can take poor but talented youths to heights of greatness," says Regent Nonoy Miravalles.

PLM has maintained its prestigious status as one of the top ten educational institutions in the country. "We are very proud of our track record in academic programs which require licensure examinations. We were ranked among the top five schools and one among only three public universities in the top ten category based on a CHED four-year study of colleges and universities which field candidates for PRC board examinations," avers **PLM President Benjamin Tayabas.**

Manila Mayor Lito Atienza says: "For education to become a great equalizer on behalf of poor families especially, there is a need to extend the reach of the city-supported Pamantasan...The overall policy strategy is to 'push down' at the district level postsecondary and higher education programs so students can attend college right at the district where they live."

Through the advocacy of 'the poor boy from Lubao' — President Diosdado Macapagal — the Pamantasan ng Lungsod ng Maynila has provided higher education to Manila's talented but financially-disadvantaged youth. PLM's vision-mission statement embodies the university's objective of broadening access to quality education and keeping its status as a center of academic excellence: ***"A caring and committed university developing professionals, leaders and citizens for the transformation of the city of Manila and the nation by educating and serving the less privileged but deserving students of Manila."***



The PLM Alumni Association has commissioned a bronze monument of the late President Diosdado P. Macapagal to be erected at the PLM grounds. The National Historical Institute is donating the historical marker for the monument.

Pres.Diosdado P. Macapagal

Pres. Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo

Mayor Lito Atienza

PLM Pres. Benjamin Tayabas

Regent Aguinaldo Miravalles

Prof. Corazon Pangcog

Dr. Benjamin Tayabas, PLM president (seated, center) is flanked by (from left) Dr. Ofelia Lazarte, PLMAA business mgr.; Ambassador Raul Goco, member of the PLM Board of Regents; Aguinaldo "Nonoy" Miravalles, member of the Board of Regents; and Dr. Ceferina Taringting, PLMAA business mgr. Standing, left to right are Dr. Virginia Santos, VP-academic affairs; Vangie Vinluan, PLMAA asst. PRO; Beth Matias, PLMAA board secretary; Prof. Coy Pangcog, PLMAA treasurer; Ador Paulino, PLMAA director; Fr. Dave Clay, university chaplain; and Eric Villamar, PLMAA adviser.

*Alumni and friends of PLM who wish to contribute to the Macapagal Monument Project may call the PLM Alumni Association office, tel.nos. 5270634, 09187341323. E-mail : plmaai@yahoo.com * plmaai@hotmail.com*

Mayor, treasurer guilty of fraud

By Donna S. Cueto

THIS is a lesson for government officials who fail to account for huge cash advances.

The former mayor of Compostela, Cebu, and his former acting treasurer were sentenced to "reclusion perpetua" or at least 40 years imprisonment, by the Sandiganbayan yesterday for malversation of public funds worth P376,618.65 which the mayor took in the form of cash advances.

The accused, Gilbert Wagas, Compostela mayor in 1992, and acting treasurer Dominador Maravillas will not only spend the rest of their life in jail, but will also have to pay the government the P376,618.65 which the mayor took from the government coffers from 1991 to 1992.

"They are further ordered to suffer the penalty of perpetual special disqualification," said the decision of the Sandiganbayan's Fourth Division yesterday.

The court found evidence of their conspiracy to take government money.

Maravillas claimed innocence, saying that the money which mayor Wagas took "never came into his possession."

He said Wagas took the money from the revenue collectors or the assistant municipal treasurer, although in some instances, he personally allowed and disbursed certain cash advances to the mayor. These are in the amounts of P60,000, P50,000, P38,000, P20,000 and P10,000.

The court said that Maravillas as the treasurer should determine if the cash advances were allowable.

"The fact is, he tolerated the practice of his revenue collectors and the assistant municipal treasurer of allowing accused Wagas to personally and directly take from them the money collections as cash advance instead of turning them over first to him," the court's decision said.

While Maravillas claimed that he had issued a demand letter to the mayor, there was no evidence presented that this was received by the mayor.

He also failed to present to the Commission on Audit a Philippine Commercial International Bank check dated Oct. 15, 1992, in the amount of P300,000 which was allegedly endorsed to him by Wagas sometime in March 1992, but had allegedly bounced for lack of funds.

The charges of malversation of public funds committed from October 1991 to March 1992 were filed after a COA audit of the cash and accounts of Compostela, Cebu.

The audit team found Maravillas short in his accountabilities by P376,618.65.

Wagas, in trying to wiggle out of the charges, claimed that the advances were covered by a Municipal Council Profession Ordinance "with a classification of Human Resource Development Intelligence Fund."

But the court noted that there was no evidence presented by Wagas to substantiate this claim, rendering his testimony a "plain case of bare allegations which has no probative value at all."

GSIS chief hit over Napocor reinsurance

By Ronnel W. Domingo

A CONSUMER group yesterday lambasted Government Service Insurance System president Winston Garcia, whose "bloated" salary is being subsidized by consumers through the padded premiums on National Power Corp.'s insurance policy.

In a letter dated Oct. 6 sent to the INQUIRER, the National Association of Electricity Consumers for Reforms lashed out at the "GSIS fat cats," saying Napocor was perhaps better off managing its own risks.

Reports quoted Napocor president Jesus Alcordo as saying the state firm was considering the option of setting up a company outside the country, which would directly deal with reinsurance brokers. He had accused GSIS of padding its reinsurance premiums.

Alcordo said the idea had yet to be formally presented to the joint bidding committee.

This was in view of the failed bidding for the renewal of its industrial all-risk policy.

Napocor's policy, which expired last month, covered $10.5 billion in assets.

The state firm has reduced the amount of its insurable assets to $6.5 billion due to the mothballing of some of them.

"(Napocor) has been stripped naked by all the disproportionate deductibles and inefficient processing of claims," Nasecore president Pete Ilagan said.

Ilagan noted that the state firm paid $47 million in five years in insurance premiums when it only collected $1.6 million in claims.

Ilagan added that Napocor had to shell out over $70 million for the repair of damaged properties supposedly covered in the policy.

Napocor's Alcordo and GSIS' Garcia had been at odds since the former insisted on having a hand in choosing reinsurance brokers for its policy.

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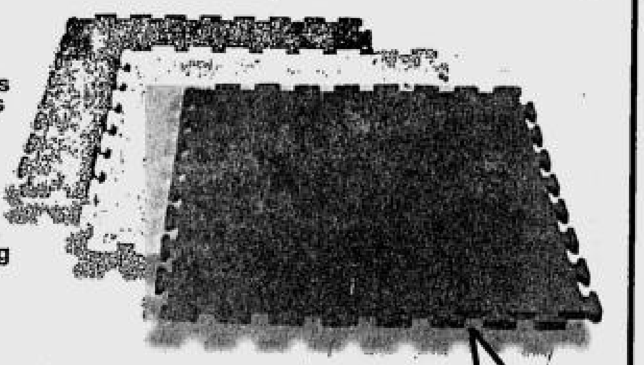

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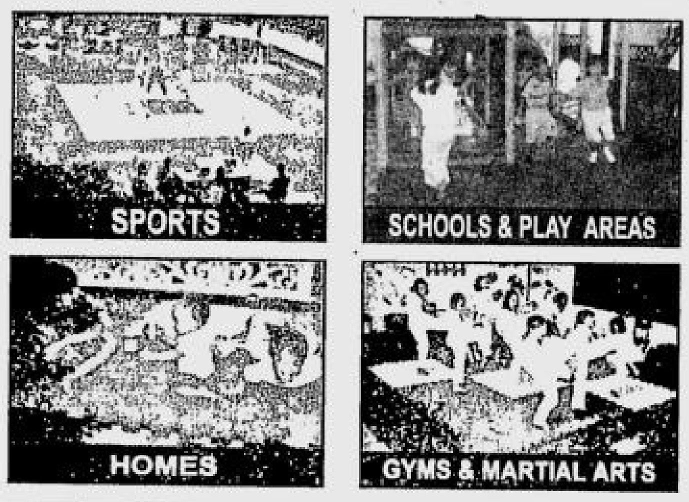

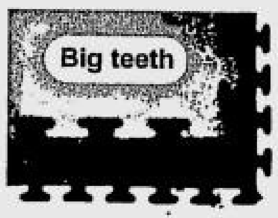

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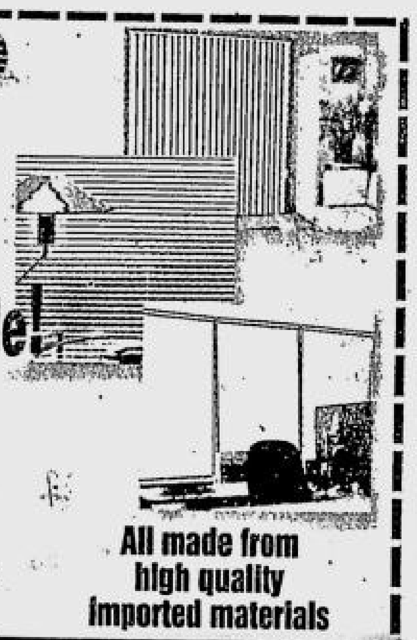

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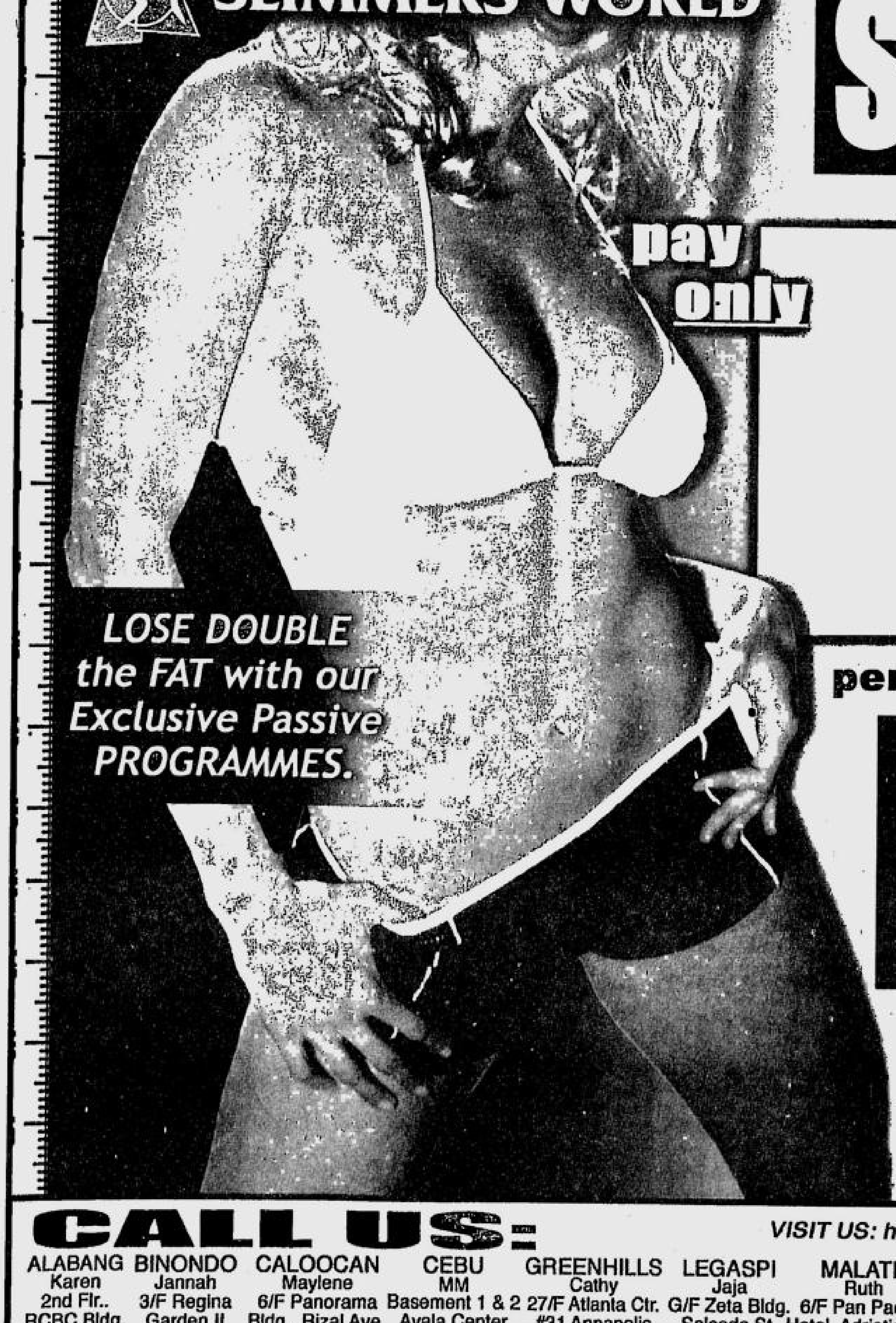
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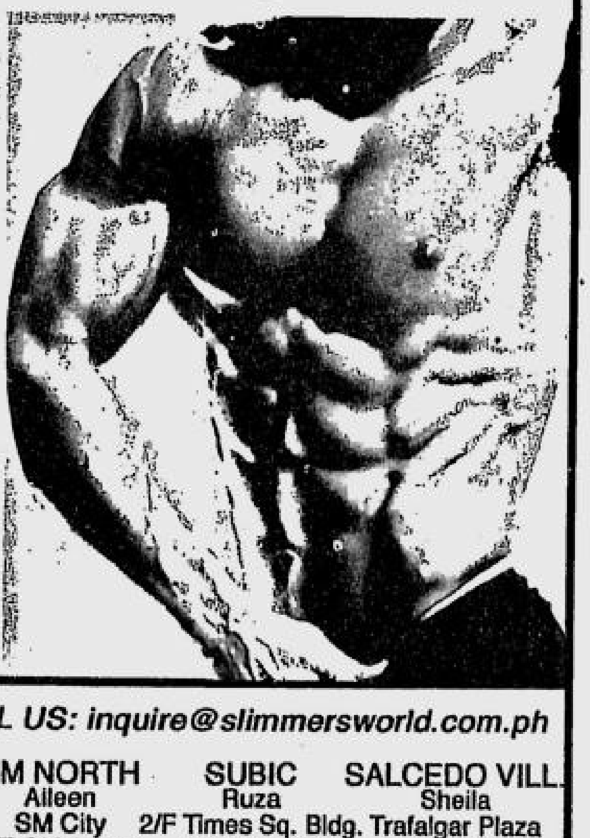

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OPINION

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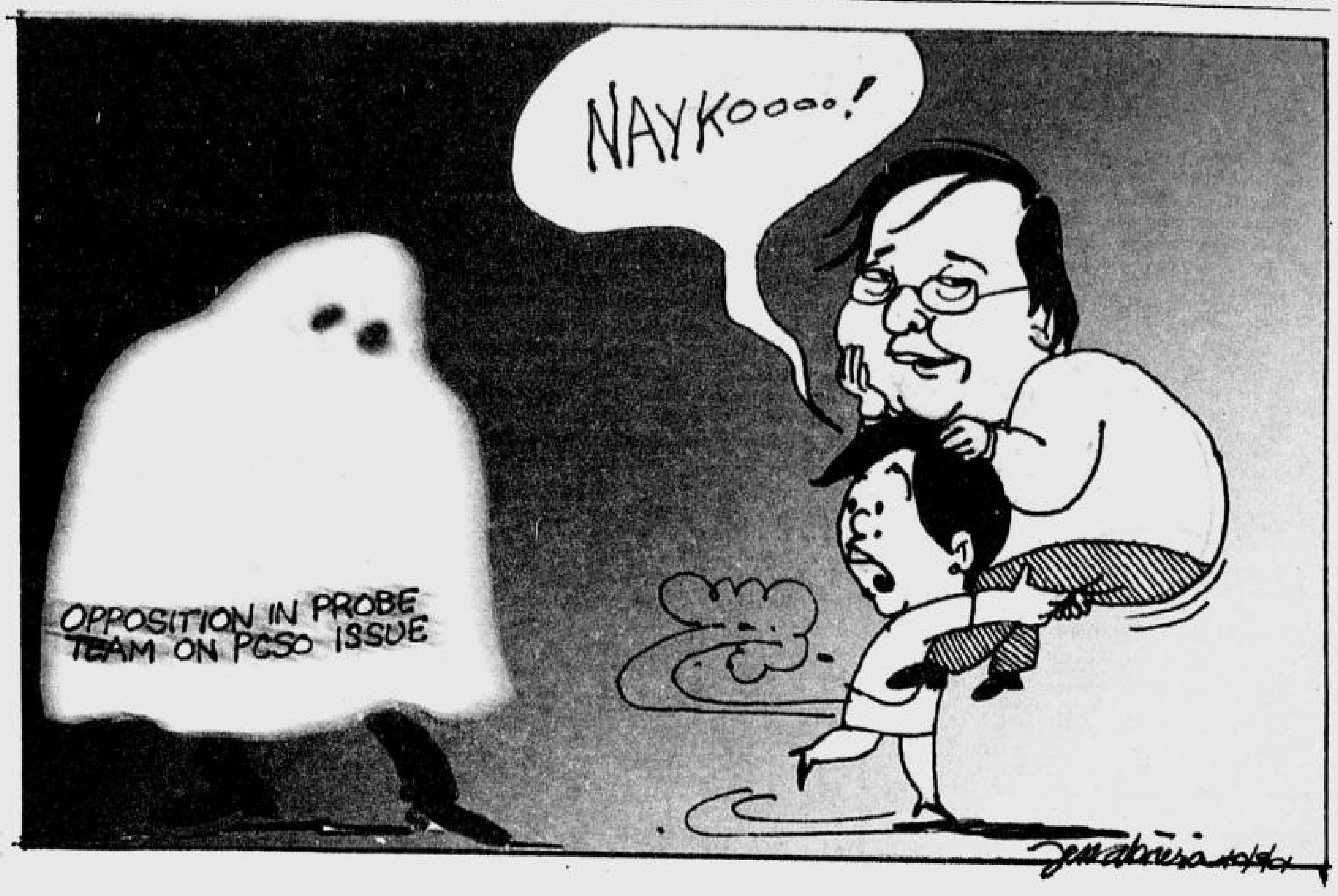
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OPPOSITION IN PROBE TEAM ON PCSO ISSUE

A protracted war

EDITORIAL

THE UNITED States and its allies yesterday struck back at the Taliban and al-Qaeda in Afghanistan, a move that could put the entire world through a new period of political and economic instability. US President George W. Bush said the attacks were "carefully targeted" strikes against the Taliban regime, its military installations and terrorist training camps.

We hope that, as the United States promised, the attacks would be limited to military targets. The people of Afghanistan have undergone so much suffering and misery in more than two decades of fighting. Indiscriminate bombing and shelling could send the poor Afghans, whose situation right now is reminiscent of the 7th century, back to the Stone Age.

We remember what happened during the Gulf War in 1991 when the United States said it was using "smart" bombs and other "smart" weapons that targeted only military installations and camps. We know that what really happened was that thousands of civilians were killed, and they were euphemistically called part of the "collateral damage."

Despite the sophistication of weapons, intelligence, tactics and troops, this is not going to be a short and easy war. Afghanistan with its mountains and caves where Osama bin Laden and the Taliban can burrow in and make themselves almost impregnable to the anti-terrorist coalition's attacks is not familiar ground to American and British troops. The Soviet Union, after backing a coup in Afghanistan in 1979, fought a protracted guerrilla war with the Muslim rebels and about 15,000 Soviet troops reportedly died.

The allied coalition is facing troops who are fired up by a fanatic zeal. In a video shown Sunday, Bin Laden, who is being protected by the Taliban, praised God for the Sept. 11 strikes that toppled New York's World Trade Center and destroyed a part of the Pentagon. The Taliban called the United States-led assault "a terrorist attack" and said that America would never achieve its goal.

If the ultimate goal is to capture or kill Bin Laden, the prime US terror suspect, it may take a long, long time to accomplish. He is well protected by the Taliban. And he is reported to have four doubles in four different places in Afghanistan at the same time. One can never be sure that he has the real Bin Laden.

Pakistan's most influential clerics called the US assault an attack against Islam and grounds for *jihad* (holy war). Despite President Bush's declaration that the United States has no quarrel with Islam, but only with terrorists and people who harbor them, the current conflict is predictably developing into a Crusades-type war between the Christian West and the Arab-Muslim world. This is going to be a messy, unpredictable, unconventional war that can be expected to spread to all corners of the world.

This is a war of vengeance and retaliation. Bin Laden, in a videotape that was broadcast by CNN Monday (Sunday in the United States), said that al-Qaeda's attacks will continue so long the United States continues the bombing of Iraq, so long as it supports Israel in the Middle East and so long as foreign troops are on the Muslim holy land of Saudi Arabia.

Bush, for his part, recalled that he had issued a series of demands, including the surrender of Bin Laden to the United States, but all of them were ignored. "Now the Taliban will pay a price," he promised. He said that the coalition in the beginning is focussing on Afghanistan but "the battle is broader."

There will be a feeling of insecurity in every place where a terrorist attack can be expected, or in places, for instance, like the airports and bases in the Philippines where US planes may land for refueling. In this unconventional war, any place is a possible target.

Fears of insecurity and political instability are dampening the regional economy. Philippine shares plunged to a 10-year low and Asian stocks also tumbled yesterday. The effect on US stocks was not immediately known as it was Sunday in America yesterday.

Despite the declaration of American authorities that it will be a "low-level" operation, the coalition's attacks will expectedly destabilize the entire world. We can only pray that the scope and area of conflict will be limited and that innocent civilians, who are among the first to suffer in any war, will be sufficiently protected and cared for.

How the gov't saved local aviation industry

AS I SEE IT

Neal H. Cruz

UNKNOWN to the riding public, our commercial airlines came within a few hours of being grounded midnight of Sept. 24, when aircraft insurers canceled existing insurance polices providing the carriers cover and third-party liability because of the hijacking by terrorists of four American planes and crashing them on targets in New York and Washington, D.C. Without adequate insurance cover, the airlines did not want to risk flying and maybe having their planes hijacked and slammed into skyscrapers. If that happened and an airline didn't have sufficient insurance to cover its losses, it would be wiped out financially by just a single incident. For example, imagine what the worldwide insurance industry is facing now having to pay claims for the loss of thousands of lives and billions of dollars worth of property in the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center.

While the chances of such a scenario happening again are very little, given the present heightened security awareness, the risk, no matter how small, is still there. So the local carriers decided not to take any chances and ground their planes rather than fly them without insurance cover.

They had no choice in the first place: their aircraft lessors and financiers had already informed them that they would not allow their planes to fly without adequate insurance protection. Insurance companies have raised, very steeply, their insurance premiums and the airlines could not afford to cover the added cost.

Thus, as midnight of Sept. 24, the hour when their insurance contracts would expire, approached, Philippine carriers were frantically searching for a stopgap solution. While they were capable of operating flights, they did not have the financial means to take out the much more expensive insurance policies. And time was running out. The airlines made a last-ditch appeal to the government to step in and issue a guarantee that should anything happen, it would cover the shortfall in insurance coverage.

Without hesitation, Transportation Secretary Pantaleon Alvarez acted. Together with Finance Secretary Jose Isidro Camacho, he sat down with the leaders of the aviation industry and hammered out a statement that recognized the indispensable role of the airlines in national commerce and firmly placed the government's enormous influence and resources behind them.

The government pledged to provide "incremental indemnity protection for war and allied perils for third-party liabilities...where commercial insurance coverage has been limited to an extent as to threaten the continued operation of Philippine air carriers."

Boosted by the strong moral support from the government, local airlines were able to assure their lessors and creditors that they were in a position to meet any financial obligations arising from insurance claims, should it come to that. As a result, airline flights in the country went on uninterrupted.

The timely intervention of the government saved not only the airlines but also air transportation and commerce, and the government deserves commendation for that. If only the government were as quick and decisive in supporting our airlines on the other pressing problems facing them today.

The issue of open skies, for example, needs a careful review because of the global turmoil affecting the aviation industry. We must make sure that local carriers are not disadvantaged in the rush to entice foreign airlines to fly here.

The issue of abuse by foreign carriers of Philippine air regulations and of the tenets of international civil aviation is another. Remember our bitter 1999 dispute with Taiwan over their carriers' wanton poaching on "sixth freedom" traffic to the United States? Remember the shameful conclusion to that year-long standoff? The previous administration surrendered to Taipei's demands and said it was "sacrificing" our national flag carrier for the sake of good relations with the arrogant bullies to our north. What a contrast to the way the governments of the United States, Canada, New Zealand, Switzerland, Belgium and many other countries have acted in recent weeks to defend their airlines.

Just days after the Sept. 11 attacks, the US government put together a $15-billion rescue package to save its airline industry from looming bankruptcy. (Compare this with our experience in 1998 when Philippine Airlines shut down and the government refused to lend it a single centavo. PAL chair Lucio Tan forked over the entire amount, $200 million, needed to keep the flag carrier flying.)

The Canadian government has promised "firm action" to maintain the viability of Air Canada and plans to infuse up to $2.5 billion to rescue the airline from insolvency. The New Zealand government took over the national carrier, Air New Zealand, when it collapsed recently, pumping $360 million fresh equity into the airline. The Swiss and Belgian governments also took over their respective flag carriers, Swissair and Sabena, when they experienced heavy financial losses in the wake of the Sept. 11 attacks.

All of these Western countries—lionized by local "open skies" junkies as bastions of liberalization averse to state support for their airlines—justified their actions as consistent with the national interest. Where, oh where, are these local champions of "open skies" now?

War on terror

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

MORALITY was the theme of Tony Blair's speech a few days ago before the Labour Party, as British flags waved among the crowd. And morality was the theme of Blair's speech yesterday before the world as American bombs rained down on Afghanistan.

It has been more than a month since the terrorist attack on New York, he said, the most savage and outrageous assault thus far on the heart of our freedoms. The United States has acted with restraint, first compiling proof of Osama bin Laden's guilt and giving the Taliban every chance of surrendering him before striking back. The Taliban had more than two weeks to do so, to choose between the side of justice and terror "They chose terror," Blair said. Now they must pay the price.

We can have no moral equivocation here, he said. This is not a matter of vengeance, this is a matter of justice. This is not about fighting another religion, this is about fighting terrorism. The decision to bomb Afghanistan has been made. It carries with it the support of 40 countries. It carries with it the collective will of the world.

Lofty words, but refuted by the spectacle of Afghanistan today.

America opted to first prove Bin Laden guilty and give the Talibans a chance to avoid war? Well, maybe it's true as Blair, who has become George Bush's spokesperson, says that the proof of Bin Laden's guilt is incontrovertible—though what has appeared in the newspapers pretty much leaves it to faith in the people saying so—but that is not all the proof of guilt there is. If the Federal Bureau of Investigation had dug deeper, the way New York's firefighters had dug deep through the rubble of the World Trade Center, straining their ears to hear one more faint gasp or whisper, refusing to give up till they dropped from sheer exhaustion, they would have found one more proof of guilt, and a far more incontrovertible one.

That one points to America. That one points to the CIA. That one points to Pakistan's ISI. All of whom conspired to create the monster that is Bin Laden and the Talibans. They were the ones who armed them with Pershing missiles and land mines and let them loose to sow terror in the heart of America's enemies, never thinking that terrorists are little able to distinguish between the hearts of enemies and friends.

As to the Talibans being given the chance to avoid the fate that has visited them, that is the equivalent of the FBI asking the Amish community to give up one of the FBI's assassins who has turned bad, and who has been living among them—or face wholesale slaughter. If the Amish should defend their beliefs, rightly or wrongly, with their lives, would they be universally condemned for it? Would their deaths be regarded as justly deserved? The Trojans refused to give up Paris, though he did an execrable thing in running away with another man's wife, who was Helen of Troy, but history, or myth, does not record the Greeks' siege of Troy as a blow for civilization. Odysseus was condemned by the gods to wander for sacking it.

Before this day is over—I am writing this several hours after the first bombs fell—many more will have died in Afghanistan than in New York on Sept. 11. But they will not be seen, or heard, or smelled, or tasted, of felt. They will have no CNN to show them digging through sand and rock with bare hands, hoping to hear the faintest signs of life from under them. They will have no CNN to show them comforting each other amid their tears, which do not flow less because they have been shed before for child or husband or father, and calling their dead heroes. Indeed, they will have no CNN to show that, like Jews or merchants of Venice, they are flesh and blood, when you prick them, they bleed, when you wound them grievously, they die.

For by the magic wand of Bush and Blair's apocalyptic reinvention of the world, they have ceased to be human beings and become an abstract concept, the product of the inexorable logic that people who do not yield a terrorist upon demand become terrorists themselves. Terrorists do not have wives and children, they have fanatical beliefs. Terrorists are not killed or slaughtered, they are destroyed, excised, surgically removed. Blair says the bombs that have fallen on Afghanistan will claim only combatants, not civilians. It follows, from definition. A whole people have been proclaimed combatants because their leaders believe that to surrender a guest is impolite, or betrays the teachings of their faith. They will not die innocent, they will die guilty.

This action is sanctioned by 40 countries? Then more is the pity. For when this chapter of history is written, after the horrendous spectacle that was 7,000 Americans lying under the ruins is replaced by the spectacle of hundreds of thousands of Afghans lying under scrap metal—and millions more of them, huddled in refugee camps, objects of charity and the cynical afterthought that they are probably better off where they are now than where they were—it will tell of how the world watched passively while a portion of humanity was extirpated, or cheered it along.

This is not a war, this is an execution. And if it did not hurt to laugh, you would be laughing till you die at Blair's statement, solemnly said, that our prayers go to the British lads, who will be marching along with their American counterparts, to face the many dangers that await them. From what? From lavish Arab curses and even more lavish Islamic incantations? From the wooden clubs the Afghan women wield and the wooden legs their husbands wear? From whatever is left of the modern weapons of destruction given to primitive hands to turn a country into a wasteland no invader could possibly love?

Pray, who will pray for the people they will kill?

Distinguishing between two kinds of Muslims

POLITICAL TIDBITS

Belinda Olivares-Cunanan

YESTERDAY the world awoke to the news that the United States and Great Britain had launched missile attacks on several areas in Afghanistan. It was something the world had been expecting, but when it came, a lot of us still took a deep breath, worried as to where this would lead. Text messages came in asking for prayers against what is feared as possibly the start of the World War III. We all pray it won't lead to that.

Yesterday's attacks against the Taliban and Osama bin Laden's forces will go down in memory the way the Gulf War began against Iraq a decade ago. Uncannily, both episodes in history saw a Bush in the White House. What we can expect is that the attacks will be more "perfect" this time than a decade ago, US war technology being far superior now. In a way this is good, inasmuch as there could be fewer innocent civilians hurt. But in addition to the technological war, the first in the 21st century, there is a fierce propaganda war as well, a battle for hearts and minds. Both wars are intertwined.

* * *

The target of these allied air attacks, Bin Laden, is portraying the attacks as an assault against Islam. He is obviously trying to whip up hatred among the Muslims for the world's Christian population, aware that if he can't get the moderates to his side, his group is isolated. By contrast, US President Bush has tried to draw the distinction between the one billion Islamic people with whom the United States and Britain have no quarrel, and the handful of fanatic terrorists who are "desecrating" one of the great religions of the world. What worries Islamic scholars is that the moderate Muslims around the world could become radicalized, depending on the outcome of the missile attacks. If innocent civilians are hurt and killed in Afghanistan, this could happen, they opine. "Muslim militancy" around the world is thus being keenly watched, especially in Muslim-dominated countries like Indonesia, Pakistan and Egypt.

We could do no less here. But in addition, every thinking Filipino should try to help draw that distinction between the law-abiding, God-fearing Muslims among us, who want to live in peace, and those who are in league with the radicals and the terrorists, who know only the language of hatred and violence as taught by Bin Laden.

* * *

In yesterday's column I raised some issues involved in the controversy over the Paref-Northfield School being proposed for construction in Greenmeadows 3 subdivision on three hectares of land leased by Northfield from the old Mathay administration in Quezon City. The issue of whether to allow Paref-Northfield, a non-stock, non-profit private school established in October 1993, to construct a new campus on this lot or not has divided residents of the subdivisions around the area into advocates and oppositors. Both sides are equally passionate.

One issue being raised by oppositors is that constructing the school would increase traffic in the area. But as a number of pro-school people have argued, traffic will always follow human endeavor, but it can be managed if there is a will to do it, and Northfield claims to have an elaborate traffic management scheme. One way this column has proposed is to ensure that Northfield would promote a car pool to lessen the use of cars. This shouldn't be difficult since many of its students would come from around the area.

* * *

Some opposers, including my good friend Boo Chanco of Star, have also argued that the rise of the school would cause the Greenmeadows area to lose badly needed space. Northfield counters, however, that the contested land has lain idle for over 20 years, and no one has done anything about it. Now the school wants to develop it to conform with the provision of PD 1216 requiring a "community park with a school." Part of its plan is to allocate 10 percent of the land to academic buildings, while the rest will contain a chapel, gym, playing field and multi-purpose hall. Northfield assures that the 90-percent open space and facilities, which will be secure 24 hours a day as an environment-friendly and well-kept community park, will be open at certain times to the homeowners.

* * *

If this is the case, then the school will be truly a boon to the various subdivisions, for the homeowners can use it for brisk walks, jogging, cycling and other sports activities, the way we now get to use the Ateneo's and UP's vast grounds, instead of the idle lot now encouraging only vagrants and drug addicts.

Incidentally, perhaps you readers should try doing your weekend brisk walks and jogs on the UP campus in Diliman. UP has closed the "big oval" in the heart of the campus to vehicular traffic on weekends. Bring the little kids with their bikes, or the big kids with their skateboards. What's great about the big oval is that at any time of day one could walk or jog or bike under the shade of those acacia trees which have now grown so big after 50 years. I try to make it a point to walk there every Sunday morning. It takes me about 20 to 22 minutes to go around the oval.

The Ateneo campus on Loyola Heights is also great for walking or jogging. Perhaps one day Northfield could provide the same service for Greenmeadows, Corinthian, St. Ignatius Village, etc.

By the way, cardiologists warn that it's not healthy to be just a weekend exerciser (some people claim they only have time during the weekend). It's best that we exercise during the rest of the week, such as every other day for a minimum of 20 minutes each time. In other words, regular exercise.

* * *

There are two other things worth considering about Northfield. One charge being leveled is that it will be elitist and exclusively for the rich. The school denies this, stressing that the high school will reach out to the poor by admitting 200 high school scholars to be drawn from indigent families in Quezon City, mostly deserving graduates of public elementary schools. About 50 percent of the total high school population will be studying free, and from what I understand, these poor scholars will be going to night school. This will be similar to a successful scholarship program for poor high-school students at Southridge in Alabang.

In addition, Northfield proposes to hold training programs for public school teachers, using these seminars as vehicles for disseminating and exchanging good educational ideas and practices.

Good schools are so difficult to come by in our country, especially those that aim to provide a balanced and demanding academic and personal formation for its students, in conformity with the Christian ideal. Let's not stop this one for reasons that could be remedied.

A religious war

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

APPEARING in the New York Times Sunday Magazine, on the day the bombings in Afghanistan started, is this article by Andrew Sullivan, entitled "This is a Religious War." Sullivan says that while world leaders have been reluctant (and rightly so) to say the conflict that led to the Sept. 11 tragedy is religious in nature, religion nonetheless played a role in it.

But the conflict is not Christianity or Judaism versus Islam, he hastens to add. Rather, it would be better understood as being a "war of fundamentalism against faiths of all kinds that are at peace with freedom and modernity."

I'm reprinting portions of the article below, in the hope it can give us a better understanding of what really is at stake in the conflict that could yet draw the rest of the world into its bloody center.

* * *

PERHAPS the most admirable part of the response to the conflict that began on Sept. 11 has been a general reluctance to call it a religious war. Officials and commentators have rightly stressed that this is not a battle between the Muslim world and the West, that the murderers are not representative of Islam...

The only problem with this otherwise laudable effort is that it doesn't hold up under inspection. The religious dimension of this conflict is central to its meaning. The words of Osama bin Laden are saturated with religious argument and theological language. Whatever else the Taliban regime is in Afghanistan, it is fanatically religious. Although some Muslim leaders have criticized the terrorists, and even Saudi Arabia's rulers have distanced themselves from the militants, other Muslims in the Middle East and elsewhere have not denounced these acts, have been conspicuously silent or have indeed celebrated them. The terrorists' strain of Islam is clearly not shared by most Muslims and is deeply unrepresentative of Islam's glorious, civilized and peaceful past. But it surely represents a part of Islam—a radical, fundamentalist part—that simply cannot be ignored or denied.

In that sense, this surely is a religious war—but not of Islam versus Christianity and Judaism. Rather, it is a war of fundamentalism against faiths of all kinds that are at peace with freedom and modernity. This war even has far gentler echoes in America's own religious conflicts—between newer, more virulent strands of Christian fundamentalism and mainstream Protestantism and Catholicism. These conflicts have ancient roots, but they seem to be gaining new force as modernity spreads and deepens. They are our new wars of religion—and their victims are in all likelihood going to mount with each passing year.

Bin Laden himself couldn't be clearer about the religious underpinnings of his campaign of terror. In 1998, he told his followers, "The call to wage war against America was made because America has spearheaded the crusade against the Islamic nation, sending tens of thousands of its troops to the land of the two holy mosques over and above its meddling in its affairs and its politics and its support of the oppressive, corrupt and tyrannical regime that is in control." Notice the use of the word "crusade," an explicitly religious term, and one that simply ignores the fact that the last few major American interventions abroad—in Kuwait, Somalia and the Balkans—were all conducted in defense of Muslims.

* * *

NOTICE also that as Bin Laden understands it, the "crusade" America is alleged to be leading is not against Arabs but against the Islamic nation, which spans many ethnicities. This nation knows no nation-states as they actually exist in the region—which is why this form of Islamic fundamentalism is also so worrying to the rulers of many Middle Eastern states...

This is a religious war against "unbelief and unbelievers," in Bin Laden's words. Are these cynical words designed merely to use Islam for nefarious ends? We cannot know the precise motives of Bin Laden, but we know that he would not use these words if he did not think they had salience among the people he wishes to inspire and provoke...Its roots lie in an extreme and violent strain in Islam that emerged in the 18th century in opposition to what was seen by some Muslims as Ottoman decadence but has gained greater strength in the 20th. For the past two decades, this form of Islamic fundamentalism has racked the Middle East. It has targeted almost every regime in the region and, as it failed to make progress, has extended its hostility into the West. From the assassination of Anwar Sadat to the fatwa against Salman Rushdie...and the hideous persecution of women and homosexuals by the Taliban to the World Trade Center massacre, there is a single line. That line is a fundamentalist, religious one. And it is an Islamic one...

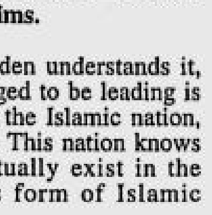
* * *

THIS use of religion for extreme repression, and even terror, is no t of course restricted to Islam. For most of its history, Christianity has had a worse record. From the Crusades to the Inquisition to the bloody religious wars of the 16th and 17th centuries, Europe saw far more blood spilled for religion's sake than the Muslim world did. And given how expressly nonviolent the teachings of the Gospels are, the perversion of Christianity in this respect was arguably greater than Bin Laden's selective use of Islam. But it is there nonetheless. It seems almost as if there is something inherent in religious monotheism that lends itself to this kind of terrorist temptation. And our bland attempts to ignore this—to speak of this violence as if it did not have religious roots—is some kind of denial...(W)e would understand this conflict better, perhaps, if we first acknowledged that religion is responsible in some way, and then figured out how and why. *(More tomorrow)*

Myths or legends?

SENSE AND SENSIBILITY

Bambi L. Harper



WHATEVER these were, they made for entertaining reading since so few of these books have survived. "Heroes de Filipinas" by Pio de Pazos printed in 1888 is one of these slim volumes with a title that would otherwise be anathema (i.e. announcement of dull and boring contents) except that it was written before the advent of PR practitioners. The exotic names of the characters and the places as well as the years that have passed since then impart a sense of distance to these tales. They may as well have taken place in another country.

There was once in Jolo a sultan called Maulana-Diafar-Sabiesa who ordered his brother, the brave and much feared Datu Bigotillo (known thus because beards were contrary to the customs of the time), to take over the fortress of Tay-Tay in the island of Paragua. The fort posed an obstacle to Maulana's piratical raids.

With that intention, Datu Bigotillo left Jolo in May of 1730 with 21 large *joangas* or *pancos* and other smaller vessels carrying over 3,000 warriors. Around the islands of the Paragua, they captured among others an ancient nobleman by the name of Don Geronimo Sundulin, whom they manage to convince with promises and threats to serve as guide to the fortress of Sta. Isabel.

Taking the fort should not have been too difficult since the garrison was outnumbered and most of the townspeople were scattered, attending to their usual occupations. But the heroic old Don Geronimo, ignoring the danger to his life, deliberately led them through a route from where the marauders were immediately seen thus defeating the planned surprise attack.

Mayor Pedro de Lucena organized some of the men and engaged the enemy in armed combat, defending the town and torching it before finally surrendering it in flames to give time for everyone to take refuge in the fortress. Datu Bigotillo and his men laid siege to the fortress for 21 days but Mayor de Lucena and the townspeople resisted valiantly until the Moros, by now disheartened, were convinced of the great difficulty of defeating a few determined men.

They re-embarked to return to Jolo, but not before Don Geronimo Sundulin was tortured, his teeth and eyes removed, his ears and nose sliced off, his hands mutilated slowly until he died.

(I turned to Fr. Rene Javellana's book, "Fortress of Empire," to see what the Fuerza de Sta. Isabel looks like these days. It's crumbling, but it still stands and since nearly half of the structure faces the sea and follows the contour of the rock on which it was built, it's understandable why Datu Bigotillo and his men had a hard time.)

Since women are seldom featured in our history, I never miss a chance to write about them even if the little information given paints only a cardboard character. Here we have someone called La Dayana de Taquina. I was amazed to find out that the island of Basilan was once known as Taquina. Dayana I could not find; may be it is another spelling for Diana (the huntress) or is not a name at all.

In May of 1747 the Atalayas under Datu Gurandin of the island of Taquina, while navigating Cabo de San Agustin along the coast of Mindanao, tried to overtake a galley but the ship was too far ahead of his *joanga* and got away. Believing it to be British pirates out to capture the silver-laden Manila galleon, the datu sent a warning to Manila.

Eventually it was discovered that the galley belonged to the Dutch who were ostensibly allied with Spain but treacherously intended to support the rebellion of Datu Malinog against the legitimate sultan of Mindanao, Admirubdin-Jamsa. When Sultan Jamsa died, the Dutch incited the Moros to rebel against Spain and helped throw them out of Zamboanga so that they could establish a trading post on the island of Sarangani.

One of the Dutch ships with 30 cannons anchored in a cove of Taquina and the captain, flattering Datu Gurandin, tried to buy his loyalty by offering him two cannons, 200 hand-guns, 200 lances and 20 coats of mail that were originally intended for Datu Malinog.

Dayana of Taquina discovered the negotiations and rebuked the datu for his willingness to sell himself in exchange for some arms. She warned him of the bad faith displayed by the Dutch and advised him instead to take what was offered and launch a surprise attack against the Dutch anyway.

When the datu appeared to be unwilling, Dayana informed the people of the negotiations and the suspicious nature of the offer. The Dutch after all never went ashore except in large numbers and armed as though ready for combat. On the other hand, the Taquinos were not allowed on board their ships except for a few unarmed men.

Her eloquence and logic influenced the Taquinos so effectively that they decided to follow the advice of Dayana's who had offered to lead the surprise attack.

This embarrassed Datu Gurandin who, together with the most valiant of his chiefs, Datu Bilao and six other datus, boarded the Dutch ship ostensibly for friendly reasons. Thirty handpicked warriors waited in their vintas for their signal.

For some reason, the Dutch became suspicious and when Datu Gurandin and his seven companions stepped on deck, the ladder was destroyed to prevent further embarkation. In the battle that followed, Datu Gurandin and the seven loyal datus were killed but they took with them the guards of the chamber, the captain of the ship, the surgeon, some soldiers and sailors. The Dutch were finally able to sail away but not before abandoning nine soldiers in a launch who were also killed.

(Considering the outcome maybe Datu Gurandin should have taken *Dayana* up on her offer to lead the attack.)

Millie

YOUNGBLOOD

Joanna Paula L. Cailas

We want to know what the young are thinking about. What are their thoughts on current issues? We welcome contributions from the twentysomething and below.—Ed.

SHE was everything you could ask for in a friend. Together with the colorful past we shared, I can't forget her warm, brown eyes that smiled with her lips. One look at her and you know what kind of person she was.

Millie was so angelic, inside and out, that I kept telling myself I didn't deserve her. But I can't help but keep on loving her. Even until now, after she went to the place where she really belongs.

I first met her four years ago, three days after we moved into our new house. Still lonely and missing our old neighborhood, I decided to visit the clubhouse that windy summer afternoon. There, I sat under a tree with my bike leaning on it. Absorbed in watching a game of tennis being played, I didn't notice someone take the bicycle.

You can imagine my panic and my anger when I found out that my bike was gone. I looked for it around the place. Finally, the guard asked me what I was looking for. Just then, not unlike feathers plucked from a peacock's tail, a pretty girl appeared, holding a pet chain on one hand and supporting my bike with the other.

She approached us, and then said a little breathlessly: "I'm very sorry. This naughty dog ran after a stray cat and I had to chase her." She gave me a pixie smile that did nothing to change my mood.

"You should've asked me first!" I snapped. But heading home, I realized that I shouldn't have been so rude to someone who seemed to be friendly. Also I was actually a bit envious of her shih tzu, and I would have done the same thing for such a pet. But my Irish temper got the better of me.

The second time we met was at school, in the library which happened to be a favorite hangout for both of us. Since I was a bit of a snob, it took me one week to make some friends. And Millie was the best of them.

She was the one who came over to greet me brightly, "Hi! Remember me?" again with that smile that did funny things to my senses. Her eyes sparkled with laughter and exposed her feelings as clearly as the clouds passing a sunlit sky.

In no time at all, we became very close. I learned that she was an only child being raised by her mother alone. Her father was killed in an accident when she was still very young, leaving them a furniture business. Her mom, Tita Bien, brought her up very well.

They were rich, but nothing about Millie suggested that she was a spoiled brat. She was cheerful and saw humor in everything but made sure she never hurt anybody's feelings with her jokes. Her funny exaggerations had a way of breaking my unpleasant moods.

Perhaps, that was one of the reasons we were such good pals despite our many differences. The only things we had in common was our sweet tooth, our obsession with reading, our hatred for Math and, of course, our fondness for each other.

While everybody else called her Mia, I called her Millie thinking it was more appropriate for someone who was so pretty. She gave me the nickname Paulie, saying she picked it from a movie she liked.

She spoiled me like a baby. There was never a time she begrudged me a favor. I asked so many from her, and she didn't mind it at all.

I was always there for her too. I was constantly on the lookout for people who might abuse my friend's kindness. She was such a good-natured person, humble, generous, patient, unsophisticated, sweet and so very thoughtful! On almost any occasion, she hid something in my bag—from our favorite, crisp Nestle crunch to a crisp copy of a Harry Potter novel. And she often denied that she was the giver, suggesting that maybe those gifts came from a secret admirer, although I had none.

What I admired most about her was that she didn't put on airs. Although she was intelligent and really beautiful, she was approachable. Totally unlike most of her contemporaries who turned up their noses at others who didn't have their beauty or money.

She wasn't the type to harbor grudges. Her pouts didn't last very long.

I was amazed that she liked me when I was her complete opposite. She was trying to influence me, I knew, just as I wanted to influence her. From school projects and assignments to our various summer crimes and common punishment, we were partners.

During vacation, Millie would take me almost anywhere she went. Together we made friends in the neighborhood. Urging me to improve my "sociability," she told me, "C'mon, Paulie, you can't help being a slight snob, but I can help you look like you are not."

From her, I learned that to be loved, you need not necessarily be lovely—just lovable. And you wouldn't receive unless you give.

In the two very short years that we were together, we only had one fight. And if not for my narrow-mindedness and insufferable pride, it wouldn't have happened. Until now, I feel sick when remembering how conceited I was—and to her, of all people.

I gave her the cold shoulder for four days, with Millie always saying sorry though I knew it wasn't entirely her fault. Because I was ignoring her in school and refused to pick up the phone, she slipped notes into my bag, asking for forgiveness. The last one she put in my bag said: "Whatever happens, you'll always be my best friend."

That note melted my stubborn heart. I was also missing her then, and I thought: Why let a silly frog experiment get in the way of an ideal friendship? Millie's a rare treasure, so keep her.

I went to their house, where I was always welcome. From the gate, I could already hear the component playing. I went in, expecting to find my friend dancing. I'd surprise her, I thought.

I was the one who got a surprise. For a split second I froze as I saw her curling on the couch, groaning in pain. I rushed to her side and gasped when I notice that she had turned blue! She was cold, and her pulse was rapid but weak.

Then the maid came. She tried to force some herbal brew into my friend's mouth. I pushed her aside and screamed. Millie was dying and there she was cooking up and forcing her to take a magic potion, when she should have called for medical assistance.

Millie's mom and I met at the hospital. We were outside the emergency room, crying unashamedly. I wanted so much to go inside to help Millie get well, to hold her hand, to kiss her cheek, to whisper that she would be alright and that I loved her.

If only the maid had called for help earlier, Millie would have been saved, said the doctor. The poison from the burst appendix would not have spread too far.

As the doctor looked away with a sigh, Tita Bien and I rushed inside the emergency room.

The memory is still burning and will forever burn in my heart and mind. We held hands one last time—hers weak, mine not wanting to let go. She gave us one last sunny smile to keep, and then she was gone.

Now, when my day is ruined or I'm in a bad mood, the memory of that smile and our many wonderful moments together is enough to cheer me up.

Honey, I wonder how you would have felt about the Danz Revo. Too bad, you're not around so I can text you. And, Lady, you thought she was barren, but she delivered two pups last month! You're missing many things already, hmmm, worldly things. I know it's great out there. But next time you visit me in my dream, don't forget to give me your cellphone number and e-mail address, okey?

Till tonight, Millie!

Joanna Paula L, Cailas, 15, can't go to school on account of a hearing loss. She makes use of the silence of her waking hours to read and write.

The INQUIRER is a member of the
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Will SSS pensioners ever have a merry Christmas?

LETTERS

THE CHRISTMAS season is fast approaching and it is time to remind the officers of all government agencies, particularly the Social Security System, not to indiscriminately spend SSS funds like they did last year. Newspaper reports said that the SSS spent P300 million for Christmas parties and P2 billion for year-end benefits (for SSS officers and employees). The funds for these Christmas bonanzas came from the sweat and blood of SSS members who built up the SSS with their collective monthly contributions.

I have been an SSS member since 1958. All those years I dreamt of a comfortable monthly pension benefit. But at my present age of 75, I only get P2,905 a month. I cannot even have decent meals of P100 daily or P33 per meal.

I praise God I am not a sickly woman. But how about the pensioner who sent a letter to the INQUIRER last month? He said his pension could barely support his daily expenses for medicine. I am sure that by now he is buried in debt. Can't the officers of the SSS not see the predicament of these pensioners?

Last Christmas, I received my 13th-month pension. I was not even able to buy a new dress or a new pair of shoes. But I'm sure that the SSS officers and even its ordinary employees were able to buy the best clothes for their families. They may even have gone to Hong Kong to purchase Christmas gifts. Their table must have been laden with real holiday fare. But we pensioners had to make do with simpler fare as in years past.

Can this letter reach those officials who have the power to tell the SSS to give our 13th-month pension and two months' Christmas bonus besides this year? We have served well, paid our contributions religiously, so we deserve a nicer Christmas this year.

I need a new dress and a new pair of shoes. I need a radio with a tape player so I can play my Bible lessons and listen to Christian music. But how can I?

How will pensioners like me spend Christmas this year? Can a law be passed limiting the power of SSS officers to spend for their own benefit the funds that should benefit SSS pensioners. Something must be done before Christmas comes. Let the pensioners have a happy Christmas.—**AMELIA M. GLORIA, 2546 Tindalo St., Tondo, Manila**

Pag-IBIG dividends credited to members' savings

THIS is in response to the queries of Edmundo G. Leaño, principal of Reina Mercedes Central School in Isabela, in his letter published last Sept. 29.

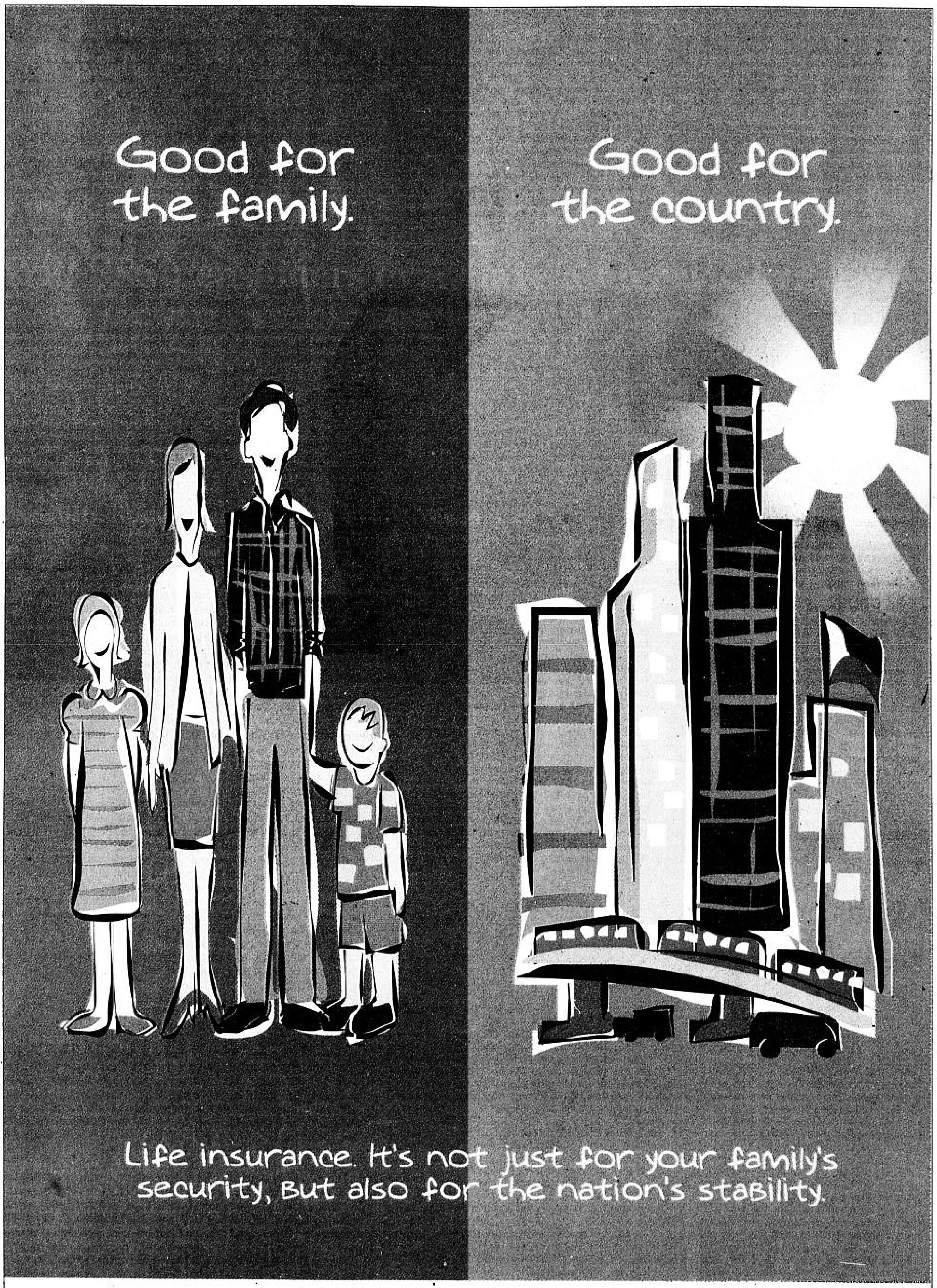
It is true that by law Pag-IBIG membership is now mandatory for all qualified employees. Their monthly contributions, including their employers' counterpart shares form part of their Total Accumulated Value (TAV) with Pag-IBIG Fund. The third part of their total savings are the dividend earnings of these contributions.

The dividends declared yearly by Pag-IBIG represents 70 percent of its net income for the year. For year 2000, Pag-IBIG declared a total of P1.813 billion in dividends, which were credited proportionately to the members' TAV. We wish to stress that the dividends are not distributed annually to the members but are credited to their total savings.

A member may withdraw his total savings with Pag-IBIG, including all dividend earnings credited to his savings upon occurrence of any of the following: membership maturity at 20 years (for new members, the partial withdrawal of savings is allowed after 10 or 15 years of continuous membership provided the member has no outstanding housing loan with Pag-IBIG), retirement, permanent departure from the country; permanent total disability or insanity; termination from service due to health reasons or upon death of the member, in which case his beneficiaries may withdraw his total savings.

Pag-IBIG members should receive every year their Employee's Statement of Accumulated Value. This statement shows how much is their total savings.

We regret that Leaño has not received a copy of his ESAV. But we have requested our Isabela extension office to send him his copy so he will now the status of his contributions, including all dividend earnings.—**MARGIE A. JORILLO, officer-in-charge, Public Affairs and Information Office, Home Development Mutual Fund, The Atrium of Makati, Makati Avenue, Makati City**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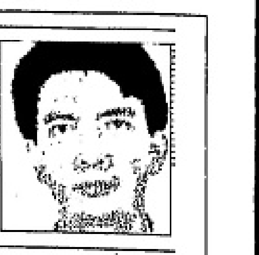

Michael L. Tan

Just war

IF it's any consolation, we are the only animal species who agonize about our aggression, maybe because we have exceeded all other species in belligerence. Other animal species clash, usually in defense of their territory and driven by adrenaline and hormones. The encounters can be bloody and fatal but they are quickly dissipated, the fighters retreating to nurse their wounds.

In contrast, humans are the only ones who wage war. We harbor our resentment and anger, whipping up a collective frenzy to mobilize fighters and planning out long-term strategies to strike at the enemy, often seeking ways to maximize the impact of our aggressive actions.

Perhaps because our wars are long and drawn-out, and so terribly destructive, we have also tried to rationalize our actions, even drawing up elaborate "rules of engagement" in attempts to make wars more "civilized." Corollary to this, we have tried to justify war. There is the concept of jihad or holy war among Muslims, in defense of the Islamic faith. Christians, too, have a notion of "just war," the result of a long history of discussion and debate among religious and secular thinkers, including St. Thomas Aquinas, who discussed war in his "Summa Theologica."

I think all that's better than a primitive kill-all, burn-all approach, such as that used by the American general Jake Smith in Samar during the Philippine-American War a hundred years ago. At the same time, we have to be very conscious of the many nuances that make it difficult to justify a war.

More or less, a just war is defined as having a just cause, being declared by a proper authority, possessing the right intention, having a reasonable chance of success and a sense of proportionality. Let's look at each of these elements and see how they hold.

At the level of just cause, we already run into problems. Usually, "aggression" is considered a just cause but history shows us that wars have been declared for all kinds of reasons, from actual physical aggression to insults traded during a football match. (In 1969, long-standing animosities between Honduras and El Salvador broke out into a full-scale war following arguments over a football match. The 100-hour war claimed 2,000 lives.)

A proper authority? This is usually the state, but again there are problems here. Is the Taliban government in Afghanistan a proper authority? When Marcos ruled as a dictator, was it right to have followed his orders as he sent soldiers out to destroy Jolo? During the Vietnam War, many Americans refused to be drafted into military service and declared themselves conscientious objectors.

Possessing a right intention? Philosophers have asked what right intention is and when it separates itself from self-interest. When America supported the muhajedeen (literally, warriors of a jihad) against the Russian invaders in Afghanistan, they were convinced they were doing the right thing, but they were certainly defending their own interests as well, i.e., any enemy of the Russians is a friend of America. Unfortunately, one of those muhajedeen was Osama bin Laden.

Finally, we come to proportionality: is the desired end proportional to the means used? I discussed this last week in relation to the atomic bombs dropped on Japan in 1945. Was it necessary to kill so many Japanese to end the war?

The Gulf War brought new dimensions to the discussion on proportionality. New military technologies—so-called smart bombs—are said to be very specific in bombing targets. Americans point out, with pride, that the Iraq bombings in 1991 resulted only in a "few" civilian deaths because of this new technology.

But Eric Rouleau, the former French ambassador to Turkey and Tunisia, questions these assumptions about "low casualties." In a 1995 article in the journal Foreign Affairs (yes, the same issue with an article about the atomic bombs), Rouleau points out that allied bombings destroyed much of Iraq's infrastructure and industry, from electric power stations to bridges and factories and that this produced many problems that are often overlooked: "To take one example, the paralysis of electric power plants deprived Iraqis of drinking water, interrupted agricultural irrigation through pumping stations, and clogged the sewage system. Garbage and debris accumulated, rats proliferated, and epidemics spread. Hospitals without generators were unable to perform surgery."

In the 10 years that followed, allied forces have continued to bomb Iraq periodically, again claiming they are sparing civilians and aiming only at infrastructure that might be used by the Iraqis to launch another war. But we never see the consequences of these bombings. Civilians suffer, civilians die. How do you explain to mothers that their children are only collateral damage? The "accidental" deaths of Iraqi civilians in 1991 ran to 2,500 by the most conservative estimates, figures that are rarely mentioned.

I am glad the US government has decided to send humanitarian aid to Afghanistan. I am glad Bush is declaring that the enemy is the Taliban and not the Afghan people. But when the bombs fall, we will see that war is still war. The danger is that as we rationalize about "a just war," we might end up shrugging our shoulders accepting that "It's just war."

* * *

Comments to miguel@pinoykasi.net

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The WORLD

LUVERNE B. GUECO, EDITOR

US action backed, opposed

TOKYO—US allies around the world strongly supported the American-led attack on Afghanistan and Osama bin Laden's network. But the Muslim world was deeply divided, with some countries opposing the assault and others setting off protests by backing it.

As security was stepped up around US embassies in many countries, and Americans were urged to stay off the streets, anti-US protests were held across the Islamic world.

In Vietnam, guards armed with automatic rifles patrolled the grounds of the US Embassy after receiving a threat of an attack.

Anti-US protests were held in Egypt and Syria on Sunday. The US State Department has issued a worldwide caution, warning of possible "strong anti-American sentiment and retaliatory actions against US citizens and interests."

Many allies of the United States and Britain praised their air strikes on military targets and Bin Laden's training camps in Afghanistan. They came after the South Asian nation ignored US demands to hand over Bin Laden, the Saudi exile who is the prime suspect in the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks that killed thousands of people in New York and Washington.

In addition to the European Union, the US supporters included China, Japan, South Korea, Australia, Russia, Pakistan, India, the Philippines, Taiwan, Israel and Thailand.

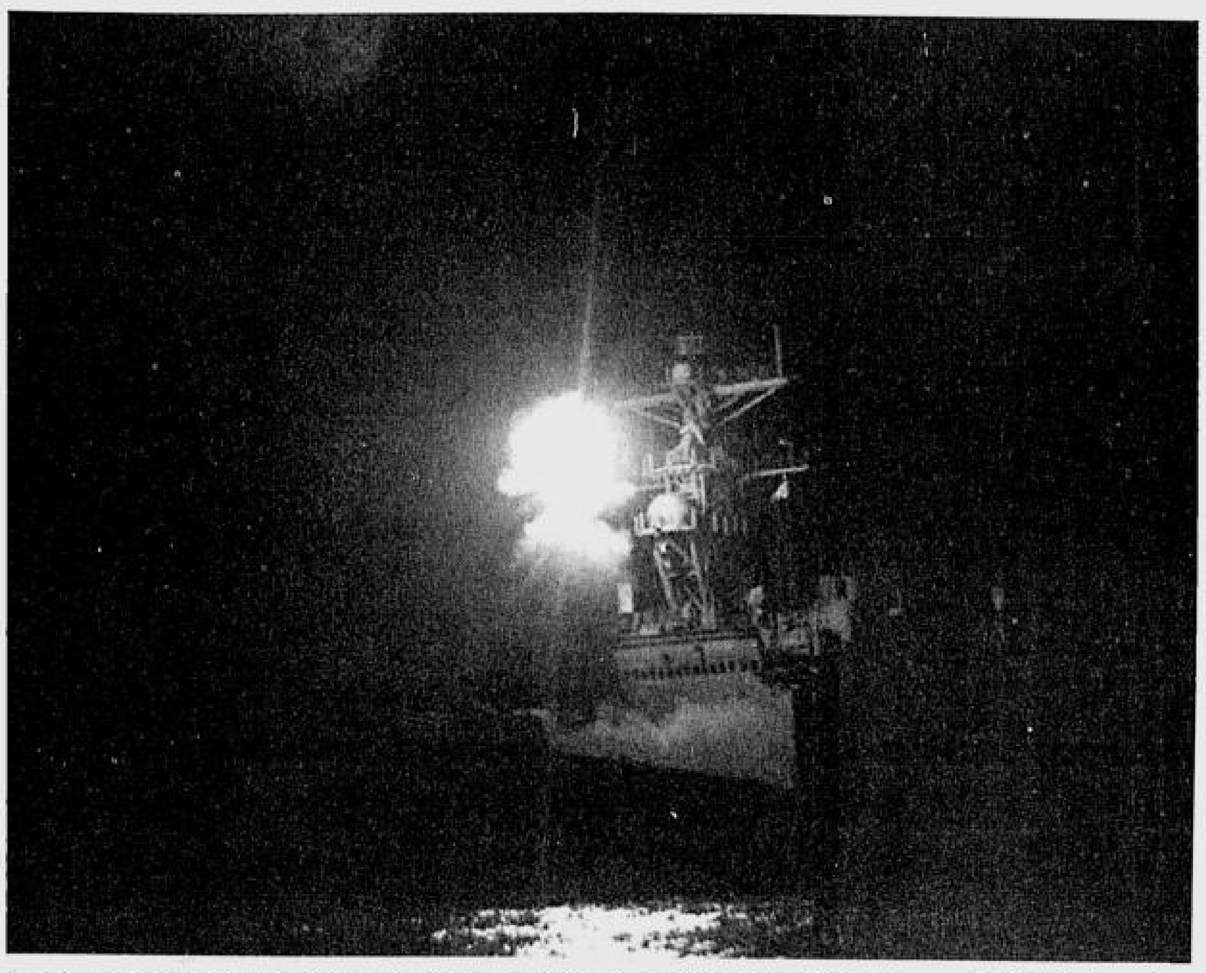
Singapore, another ally, called the attacks "a legitimate act of self-defense."

France, Canada, Australia, Italy and Germany agreed to Bush's request to contribute forces. Others granted air transit or landing rights, or were providing intelligence to help with the US-led global war against terrorism, Bush said.

Like other Gulf nations, Saudi Arabia, which supported US-led forces during the Gulf War, remained silent about the action in Afghanistan.

China and India backed the US-led battle against terrorism, but they also urged the attacking forces to avoid hurting innocent civilians.

Australian leader John Howard called the attacks "retaliation against the people who, according to the canons of any of the world's great religions, cannot call themselves people of God." *AP*



AN UNDATED file picture shows the launch of a Tomahawk missile from the destroyer USS Nicholson. The Tomahawk missiles could be part of the attack on Afghanistan's capital Kabul Oct. 7. Downing Street confirmed that British forces were involved in the attacks on Afghanistan in retaliation for the Sept. 11 attacks on the US. AFP

US braces for more terrorism

WASHINGTON—US officials Sunday warned Americans at home and abroad that military strikes in Afghanistan could lead to more terrorism by Islamist militants blamed for deadly suicide attacks last month.

Airports, government agencies, and other installations, as well as US embassies abroad, were placed on high alert.

"At my request, many governors have activated the National Guard to strengthen airport security. We have called up reserves to reinforce our military capability and strengthen the protection of our homeland," President George W. Bush said in an address to the nation.

Vice President Dick Cheney was moved to an undisclosed location for security. The White House would not say whether any other measures were taken.

The State Department issued a dire warning to US citizens that the strikes could spur terrorist retaliation.

"This action may result in strong anti-American sentiment and retaliatory actions against US citizens and interests throughout the world by terrorists and those who are sympathetic to or otherwise support terrorism," the State Department said in a statement.

Senate Intelligence Committee chair Bob Graham urged Americans to be vigilant for terror attacks that could use nuclear, biological or chemical weapons. *AFP*

No arrests yet in Saudi bomb blast

RIYADH—Saudi Arabia cannot confirm or deny if Saturday's bomb blast which killed an American and another foreigner is related to the terror attacks in the United States, the interior minister was quoted as saying Monday.

"We can not deny or confirm if Khobar blast is related to the latest events in the world, or to the previous blasts in Riyadh and the eastern province," Prince Nayef bin Abdul Aziz told Okaz daily.

"It is premature to talk about details," he added.

The authorities were still trying to identify the badly mutilated second person who died in the blast in the eastern city of Khobar. Four other people, two Filipinos, a Briton and an American were also wounded.

Prince Nayef said no one had been arrested in connection with the explosion, but a number of people have been questioned.

Sunday, crime scene investigators wearing gloves searched for evidence in the shards of glass covering the street.

A US official said Saturday the blast appeared to be an "isolated incident" unconnected to the terrorist attacks in the United States which left thousands dead on Sept. 11.

Tension has risen in the region since the suicide hijack attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, which Washington blames on Saudi-born dissident Osama bin Laden.

Failure to identify the second man killed in the blast raised speculation he could have been a suicide bomber.

Al-Watan newspaper quoted witnesses as saying that the blast appeared to have been caused by a kamikaze, probably a Pakistani, who was killed instantly.

However, the report could not be confirmed.

The oil-rich kingdom was rocked in the past year with a series of bombings linked to alcohol smuggling. A dozen Westerners are in jail awaiting trial as inquiries continue into bootlegging and the explosions, which began last November.

In June 1996, 19 members of the US air force were killed when a truck bomb exploded outside a housing block for US troops from the Dahran military base, near Khobar.

The US Embassy in Riyadh urged Americans Sunday "to review their own personal security practices, to be attentive to their surroundings and to exercise caution."

An embassy spokesperson said there are about 13,000 American civilians in the Eastern Province, 11,000 of them in the Khobar-Dhahran area.

Expatriates, many employed in the oil and construction industries in Saudi Arabia, live in heavily guarded company compounds where they can work, shop and send their children to school.

When they ventured out, it was often to places like King Khaled Street, where Saturday's bombing occurred. The street was lined with shops selling souvenirs as well as electronics and designer clothes. *AFP, AP*

100 die in Milan runway collision

MILAN—More than 100 people were killed in a runway collision at Milan's Linate airport early Monday between a Scandinavian Airlines SAS jet and a small Cessna plane, airport officials said.

A number of ground staff at the airport were also believed to be among the victims, officials said.

Rescue workers told the Ansa news agency they had recovered 60 bodies a little over three hours after the crash, which happened at 8:15 a.m. The bodies of the four people aboard the Cessna, which belonged to a German company, were among those recovered.

Emergency units were being hampered by a fire.

All 110 people aboard SAS flight 686 for Copenhagen were believed dead, as well as the four on the Cessna.

The airport management company, SEA, said between 20 and 25 people would normally have been working in the building destroyed by the crash, believed to be a baggage handling warehouse.

According to initial reports, SAS flight SK 686 was preparing to take off for Copenhagen and was approaching take-off speed when it hit the Cessna which had apparently taxied across its path. Visibility was hampered by heavy fog.

The SAS plane, an MD-87, hit the smaller plane before ploughing off the runway and careening into the warehouse and splitting in two. The plane then burst into flames, according to officials.

Linate is Milan's second-busiest airport after Malpensa.

Thick fog, which enveloped the airport hampered the start of the emergency operation, preventing helicopters from taking off.

Fire fighters and ambulance crew were rushed to the scene in the immediate aftermath of the disaster and local hospitals put on a state of alert. *AFP*

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"ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING LAW (R.A.9160): ITS WHATS, WHYS AND WHEREFORES"

to be conducted on October 16, 2001 (Tuesday), from 9:00 A.M. to 5:30 P.M., at the SGV Conference Hall, AIM Conference Center, Makati City, by:

THE INSTITUTE OF CONTINUING LEGAL STUDIES AND EDUCATION, INC.
and
ARELLANO UNIVERSITY

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- ◉ Introduction and Backgrounder
- ◉ Salient and Sensitive Features of the Philippine Anti-money Laundering Law (R.A.9160)
- ◉ Compliance Aspects of the Law (Ra.9160)
- ◉ Critique and Proposed Amendments

Resource speakers:

- ◉ Senator Ramon Magsaysay, Jr.
- ◉ Senator Sergio Osmeña III
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- ◉ BSP Governor Rafael Buenaventura
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Why Okinawans have longest lifespan in globe

NAHA, Japan—She walks a bit slower, and her hearing isn't what it used to be. But Fumi Chinen, just a few months shy of her 100th birthday, hasn't given much thought to retirement.

"I would hate just sitting around the house," Chinen said during a recent afternoon break from tending her family's small clothing shop in the public market. "I think I'd go senile."

No country on earth has a longer life expectancy than Japan, and nowhere in Japan do people live longer than they do on sun-drenched Okinawa, a coral-ringed island just north of Taiwan.

Heart disease and strokes are rare. Cancer rates are low. Instead of being shunted into homes and forgotten about, old people are out and about. Like Chinen, many work well into their 80s and 90s.

Now, a group of scientists believe they may know some of the reasons why. And they have collaborated on a best-selling book on how the rest of the world might benefit.

"There is a lot people can learn from Okinawa—diet, exercise and lifestyle. It's a Shangri-La," said Makoto Suzuki, a cardiologist and professor at Okinawa International University who co-wrote the book, "The Okinawa Program."

Using statistics from a 25-year study backed by Japan's Health Ministry, the book paints an almost too-good-to-be-true picture of Okinawan health, and even cites ancient Chinese legends calling Okinawa the "land of the immortals."

It offers a raft of health tips, including exercises from karate—an Okinawan invention—and relaxation techniques, along with nearly 100 recipes ranging from "Shangri-La Spinach Lasagna" to "Immortal Pate."

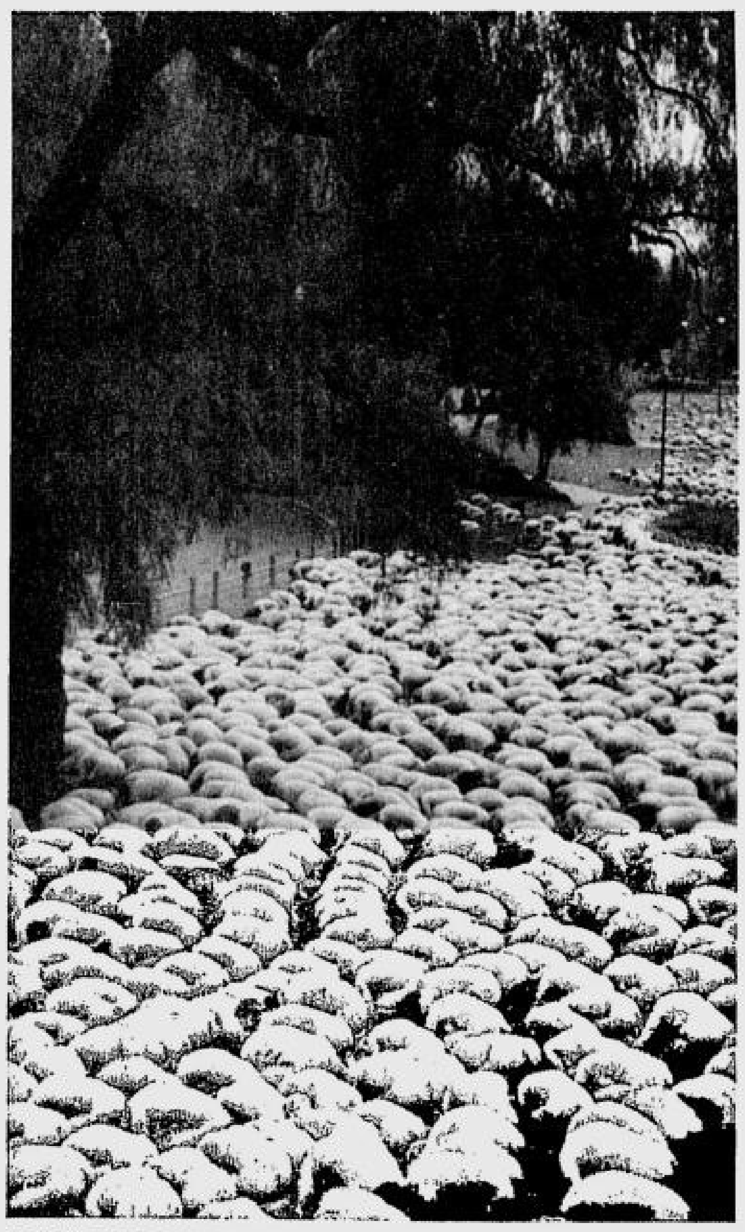
Okinawa also has an unusually high concentration of people 100 years or older. There are currently about 400 centenarians in Okinawa, or 34 for every 100,000 people. The equivalent figure for the United States is about 10 in 100,000.

Okinawans suffer 80 percent fewer heart attacks than North Americans, and are twice as likely to survive one if they do. Stroke, hormone-related cancers and dementia are rare. There is little obesity. Old people have stronger-than-expected bones.

While acknowledging that genes can provide some beneficial propensities, the book argues heredity doesn't necessarily weigh all that heavily in the Okinawans' favor. Okinawans living in Brazil and elsewhere overseas have lower life expectancies, the authors note.

Of more importance, they say, is the Okinawan diet, which is very heavy on fruits, vegetables, fish and moderation. Another factor is the low level of stress felt by old people, which the authors attribute largely to a strong social network that keeps old people actively involved in the community.

"People, especially older people in villages, simply look out for one another," the Willcoxes say in the book. "It enables the elderly to go about their daily lives while still living in the community, even if they are slowing down a little." *AP*



MELBOURNE BODYSCAPE AFP

Thousands of nude people pose during a photo shoot in Melbourne's Alexandra Gardens Oct. 7. The estimated 4,000 people took part in cold, cloudy weather conditions for photographs done by New York artist Spencer Tunick. Tunick used the backgrounds of Melbourne's historic Princes Bridge and neighboring Alexandra Gardens for the shoot.

Northern Luzon Bureau
Room 201, Bonuan Apartelle
10 Happy Glen Loop, Baguio City
Tel. No. (074) 443-9255
Fax No. (074) 443-8971
E-mail: inq_baguio@inquirer.com.ph

Southern Luzon Bureau
23 Aurora St., Old Albay District
Legazpi City
Tel. No. (052) 820-8402
Fax No. (052) 820-1274
E-mail: inq_bicol@inquirer.com.ph

Across the NATION

TONY BERGONIA, Assistant Editor

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Southern Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao will experience mostly cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms. The rest of the country will be partly cloudy to at times cloudy with isolated rainshowers or thunderstorms.

SOURCE: PAGASA

Metro Manila	Partly Cloudy with Rains	HI 33° Lo 24°
Baguio	Partly Cloudy	HI 24° Lo 16°
Tuguegarao	Partly Cloudy	HI 33° Lo 26°
Laoag	Partly Cloudy	HI 33° Lo 25°
Clark Zone	Partly Cloudy	HI 33° Lo 24°
Tagaytay	Partly Cloudy with Rains	HI 31° Lo 22°
Legazpi	Cloudy with Rains	HI 30° Lo 26°
Calapan	Cloudy with Rains	HI 33° Lo 27°
Bacolod	Cloudy with Rains	HI 30° Lo 26°
Roxas	Cloudy with Rains	HI 28° Lo 26°
Cebu	Cloudy with Rains	HI 32° Lo 25°
Tacloban	Cloudy with Rains	HI 29° Lo 26°
Gen. Santos	Cloudy with Rains	HI 28° Lo 26°
Zamboanga	Cloudy with Rains	HI 27° Lo 26°
Cagayan de Oro	Cloudy with Rains	HI 31° Lo 24°
Davao	Cloudy with Rains	HI 32° Lo 25°

Compiled by: Ray Leyesa, PDI Research/10/09/01

ROUNDUP

Lightning kills 2 kids

BACOLOD CITY—Two children were killed while two others suffered burn injuries after they were hit by lightning about 5:30 p.m. on Sunday in Himamaylan City, about 89 kilometers south of here. The fatalities were identified as Jeanne Ades and Tetchie Ichon, residents of Sitio San Jose, Barangay Caradio-an, Himamaylan. Injured were Jeanne's siblings, Kalbo and Dona Ades. They were confined at the Himamaylan District Hospital. Police said the children were playing outside their house when lightning struck. Jeanne and Tetchie died instantly from severe burns, police said.

Carla Gomez, PDI Visayas Bureau

Winners get incentives

ROXAS CITY—The provincial government has given cash incentives to two brothers from Tapaz town, Capiz who excelled in the recent Southeast Asian Games. Some P40,000 was awarded to Fidel Gallenero, who won the gold medal in decathlon. His younger brother, Dandy, received P20,000 for winning the silver medal in the javelin throw. The Capiz government gave the two brothers a hero's welcome when they arrived here Sept. 28.

Gerry Pagharion, PDI Visayas Bureau

Jail guard suspended

ILOILO CITY—Antique Gov. Salvacion Zaldivar-Perez ordered the one-month suspension of a jail guard for shooting dead an inmate who was escaping from the Antique Provincial Jail on Aug. 29. She said provincial guard Rodolfo Abancio should have aimed at the leg of inmate Hilario Embalsado, if he had to be maimed, instead of shooting him thrice in the back. Embalsado, 28, escaped with Alejandro Molova and Angelito Francisco after asking permission from jail guards to throw garbage outside the jail compound. Molova and Francisco later surrendered. Embalsado was cornered less than a kilometer from the jail compound. Abancio shot him after the escapee allegedly tried to fight back.

Nestor Burgos Jr., PDI Visayas Bureau

Ormoc cop shot dead

TACLOBAN CITY—Unidentified men shot dead a policeman in Ormoc City on Sept. 27. Senior Insp. Librado Sude, 53, of the Ormoc police station, suffered 10 bullet wounds in different parts of the body. Police said Sude was riding his motorcycle when armed men waylaid him in Hermosilla Drive. The suspects shot the victim and fled. Chief Insp. Eleazar Igloso, police regional office director for investigation, said authorities still don't know the motive for the killing.

Cynthia Borgueta, PDI Visayas Bureau

2 die in vehicle crash

OLONGAPO CITY—Two women were killed while 20 others were injured Wednesday when a bus rammed a jeepney along the national highway in Barangay Kalaklan here. Police said the Victory Bus, driven by Elmer Bonilla, was moving down the highway when it crashed into the jeepney at 4:30 p.m. The collision sent Lea Lacambra, 38, of Olongapo City, and Jesusa Espinosa, 66, of Subic, Zambales, out of the jeepney and 10 meters into the road. They died on the spot. The injured were taken to the James Gordon Memorial Hospital here.

Cesar Villa, PDI Central Luzon Desk

Reward for early birds

MATI, Davao Oriental—Gov. Maria Elena Palma Gil started a reward system among government employees here to reduce tardiness. Under the scheme, employees who would report for work on time are eligible to join a raffle draw and would have a chance to win prizes. The draw is held every Monday right after the flag-raising ceremony. The latest winner of the raffle draw was contractual worker Sandro Dongalo, who went home with an 80-kilo pig, handed by the provincial veterinarian's office.

Ferdinand Zuasola, PDI Mindanao Bureau

Killer draws life term

BAGUIO CITY—A judge here meted out life imprisonment to an employee of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources for killing a Chinese businessman and stealing P12,500 from the victim's daughter in 1999. Judge Ruben Ayson of the regional trial court ordered Ricardo Daroy, a forest ranger, to pay P400,016.20 in damages to the family of Chin Tiang Look. Look's daughter, Jane Yap, lost P12,500 on June 18, 1999 when Daroy and his three companions took her bag in front of her house in Barangay Guisad here. Yap was about to pay their taxi fare when Daroy pointed a gun at her while his companion shot and killed her father.

Jovelyn Reyes, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

Workers escape

DAGUPAN CITY—Six workers from Misamis Occidental escaped from a noodle factory in Binmaley, Pangasinan on Sept. 28, saying they were treated inhumanely by the factory's owners. The workers—Ely Tagudin, 20; brothers Johnny, 21, and Domingo, 15, surnamed Macadildig; Erlou Lusterio, 18; Lee-Mar Saja, 18; and Japhed Cardona, 18—escaped by climbing the walls of the factory at 2 a.m., police said. A team from the Department of Labor and Employment went to the factory to talk to its owners. But Orlando Dy, the factory's manager, reportedly refused them entry, saying factory owner Cesar Chan was not there.

Yolanda Fuertes, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

Auditor sought tobacco tax inventory prior to slaying

VIGAN CITY—Shortly before he was murdered last Thursday, Ilocos Sur auditor Agustin Chan Jr. had asked provincial government officials to liquidate disbursements made from the province's share from tobacco excise taxes.

This was contained in a letter recovered by the police from the belongings of Chan, who was killed with his driver Alex Racacho in an ambush in Bantay town last Oct. 4.

In the inventory conducted by the Ilocos Sur police in the presence of Chan's employees at the province's Commission on Audit, one document revealed the auditor's persistent efforts to scrutinize provincial government transactions.

An Oct. 4 "tracer letter" addressed to the provincial accountant cited the failure of the provincial government, despite repeated requests, in providing Chan with a list of expenditures that would be charged against the tobacco funds.

Chan first made the request in a letter dated Sept. 4.

Evelyn Chan, the auditor's widow, told the INQUIRER last Friday that several documents in her husband's possession are missing.

The provincial government had received about P250 million from tobacco excise taxes this year, broken down in two P107.6-million releases in March and June and P32 million before the May 14 elections.

The discovery of the document, according to officials of the Save Ilocos Sur Alliance (Sisa), only strengthened their suspicion that Chan was killed due to his work.

"Our strong conviction that Chan's ambush-slaying is work-related, particularly regarding the alleged anomalies in the provincial government, is becoming clearer," Nestor Seguismundo, Sisa president, said.

Sisa is accusing the provincial government of spending a huge part of the tobacco funds during the last elections and had difficulty in liquidating it.

"We strongly suspect that the big part of the amount was spent during the last elections and they could not find ways to liquidate all of it," Seguismundo said.

But Ilocos Sur Gov. Deogracias Victor Savellano denied Sisa's claims.

"We could not immediately give the list of programs and projects to the provincial auditor because of difficulties in consolidating (information on) the different projects and programs (funded by the tobacco funds)," Savellano told the INQUIRER.

"The alleged anomalies being cited by the opposition groups have yet to be substantiated," he said.

In Baguio City, lawyer Pablito Sanidad, counsel of former Ilocos Sur Gov. Luis "Chavit" Singson, said the immunity granted to Singson makes him the least likely suspect in the murder of Chan.

Singson was indirectly linked to Chan's murder by a press statement from former President Joseph Estrada, who identified Chan as one of his defense witnesses during his aborted Senate impeachment trial.

Chan was involved in the audit of Ilocos Sur's disbursements of its share from tobacco excise taxes, although it was Singson who disclosed last year that the taxes were diverted to Malacañang as part of Estrada's alleged kickbacks.

Sanidad said he had no knowledge of the whereabouts of Singson, who is reportedly in the United States.

"But that doesn't mean he is hiding. He will be back for Estrada's trial, where he will offer evidence about Malacañang's tobacco tax kickbacks. When he shows up, he will automatically call a press conference. Chavit is not someone who shies away from the media," Sanidad said.

Leoncio Balbin Jr. with a report from Vincent Cabreza, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

Alien recruiter found using several aliases

BY CHITO A. FUENTES
PDI Visayas Bureau

TAGBILARAN CITY—A foreigner who was detained here for illegal recruitment was an "undocumented alien" who is facing estafa charges before a regional trial court in Makati City, according to the Bureau of Immigration.

Col. Diego Hipolito, BI technical assistant for Intelligence, said he found that the suspect, who identified only himself as Billy Forssel, had seven different identification cards bearing different names but with the same picture.

One of these was in the name of Robert Borg of the Philippine National Police Community Relations Group with control no. 082.

"We're just going to wait for his cases to be settled. Definitely he has already violated immigration laws. He is an undocumented alien. Undocumented means he has no travel document. No travel document means no passport," he said.

Supt. Louie Oppus, Tagbilaran police chief, said the suspect, who used the alias Matti Fononi when he was held here, is also facing estafa cases before the RTC Branch 145 in Makati City.

The case against Forssel was filed on Dec. 2, 1999. He was freed on Jan. 24, 2000 after he posted a bail bond of P80,000.

Forssel, 31, claimed he was from Arrendegatan, Linkoping, Sweden when he was arrested by the Tagbilaran police on charges of illegal recruitment filed by four young women on Aug. 24.

Elma Cheryl Fajardo, Marianette Apac and sisters Marie Apillanes and Almira Apillanes-Migriqo complained that Forssel recruited them to work as caretakers in Sweden.

They were required to pay $370 each for the processing fee and $650 for their plane tickets.

The Apillanes sisters decided to ask about Forssel through a relative in Sweden after their flight schedules were cancelled.

They went to the police and the Department of Labor and Employment upon learning that Forssel's alien control number belonged to one Allereza Funini.

But an official communication from the Swedish National Criminal Investigation Department to Oppus indicated that Forssel might be Alireza Fononi, an Iranian citizen with the Swedish personal code 700911-0771.

The Swedish Illegal Immigration Unit said there was a Billy Forssel with the personal code of 720920-0497 but he never lived in Linkoping, Sweden. "He has Swedish passport No. 76207331. (The passport was) not reported stolen or lost," the communication said.

The Swedish intelligence service, however, said Fononi is registered as living in Arrendegatan 55, 583 31 Linkoping. "He is (an) Iranian citizen and cannot be a bearer of a Swedish national passport," the same communication said.

Grenade sends townsfolk to panic

MABALACAT, Pampanga—Panic gripped residents of Barangay Mabiga here early Monday after two motorcycle-riding men hurled a live grenade at the gate of a hardware store stocked with flammable muriatic acid.

Hundreds of residents briefly evacuated their homes as an explosive ordnance disposal team from the Philippine Air Force's 710th Special Operations Wing based in nearby Clark prepared to detonate the grenade to prevent a large explosion that would have caused a huge fire.

The grenade was thrown at the Mabiga Construction Supply at 6 a.m. Mabalacat police reported the incident to the PAF team at 8:30 a.m., a report from Col. Ralph Flores, wing commander, said.

Male residents helped the PAF team move the 10 drums of muriatic acid away from the hardware store. Several others lined up along the Mabiga stretch of the MacArthur Highway and watched in fright as the team hurried to put the residents to safety.

The team chose not to move the grenade away from the gate, anticipating it would blow off on slight movement, the report said.

The team encircled the area with tall stacks of sandbags and ordered local fire trucks to be on standby.

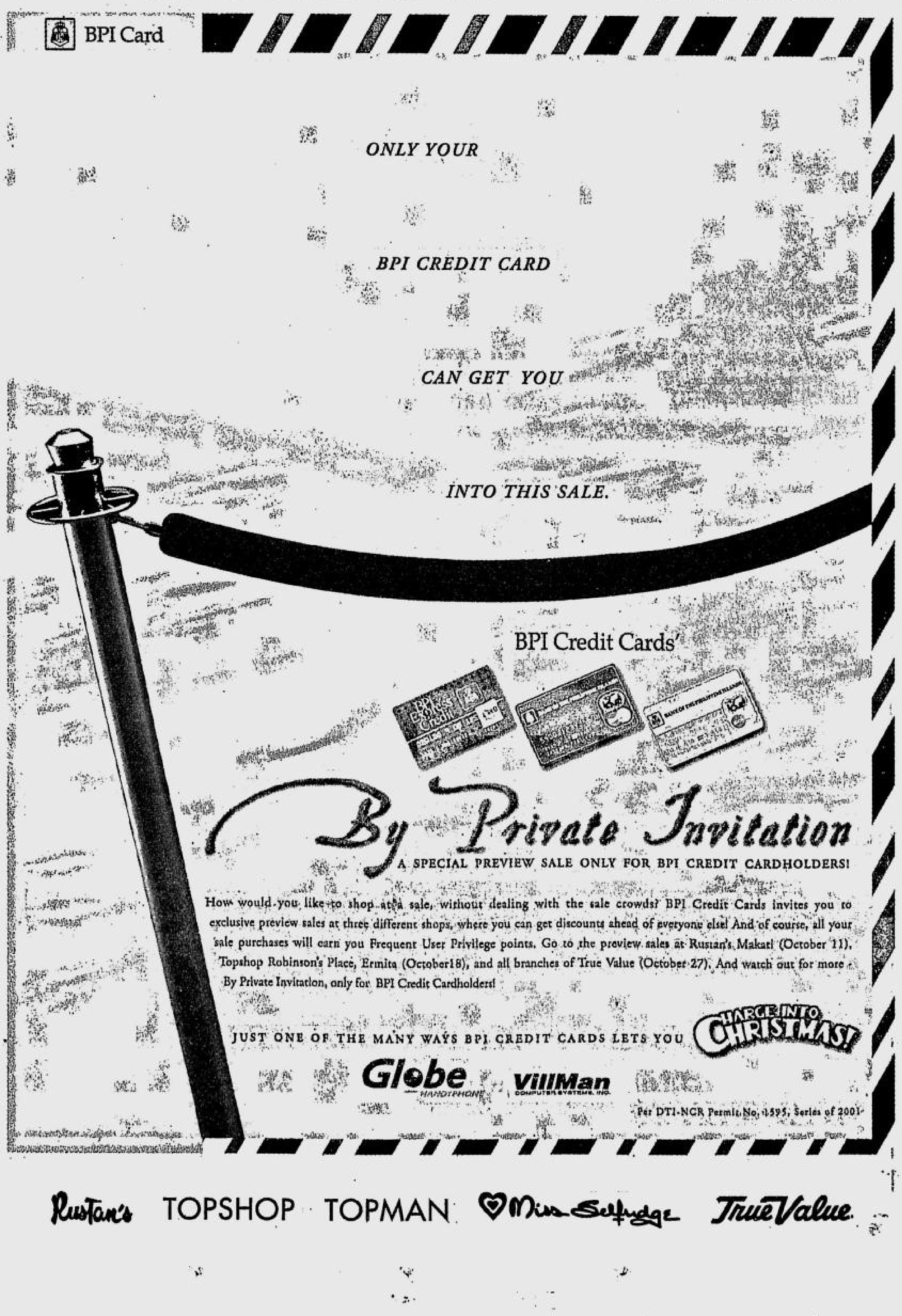
To the residents' relief, the grenade was safely detonated at 10 a.m.

"We were glued all night to CNN. We were watching the buildup of American troops in Afghanistan. Then this happens to us. Who would not be afraid? " a woman who has two children working overseas told the INQUIRER.

Flores said there were no immediate indications that the incident was the work of local terrorists.

However, he said that angle was not being discounted. The Mabalacat police are investigating the incident.

Members of the PAF team said this was the seventh grenade or bomb-lobbing incident in the Angeles City-Mabalacat town area. *Tonette Orejas, PDI Central Luzon Desk*



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AFP: Soldiers kill 21 Abus in Basilan clashes

(From page A1)

Asked if any of the hostages, particularly American missionary couple Martin and Gracia Burnham, have been sighted, Cimatu said "we have that report but we will not disclose their (hostages') exact location for operational purposes."

A third American, Guillermo Sobero, was reportedly killed by the rebels.

The hostages were seized on May 27 from the Dos Palmas island resort in Palawan and taken by boat to Basilan, where the military launched an offensive that now involves more than 7,000 soldiers.

In a briefing in Camp Aguinaldo, AFP Chief of Staff Gen. Diomedio Villanueva said instructions have been issued to ensure the safe recovery of the hostages.

"The safety of the hostages has been properly taken care of," Villanueva said. "Our troops have been given instructions."

The military has halted its air strikes due to inclement weather in the area and operations were limited to ground movements.

An Associated Press report quoted military officials as saying that about 100 bandits opened fire on policemen and soldiers patrolling near Balatanay, setting off the fighting Sunday morning.

The bandits are believed to have attacked four nearby villages with mortar fire late Thursday, injuring four civilians and a soldier.

Main force

According to the AP report, Cimatu said officials believe they had encountered the main force of the Abu Sayyaf in Balatanay on the western outskirts of Isabela.

He added that the destruction of the bandits could be at hand.

"We've stumbled on the main group. It's just a matter of time before we complete the mission and destroy the Abu Sayyaf," Cimatu told troops during a visit to an Army camp in Basilan.

A police special action force was able to advance to a hill near Balatanay, where the bandits briefly encamped, and recovered mortars and other weapons abandoned by the fleeing group.

The bandits scattered and hid in a mangrove area. Troops were searching, backed by six Navy gunboats to keep them from escaping from the island.

Bad weather has prevented Air Force helicopters and planes from joining the pursuit Monday, officials said.

Citing the increasing number of Abu Sayyaf casualties, Adan said "We are progressing. We were able to inflict heavy damage on their organization."

In Malacañang, presidential spokesperson Rigoberto Tiglao yesterday said the ongoing clashes in Basilan were part of a "major" military offensive that had been slowly built up since last week.

"We were not able to report it to you because of the intelligence implications. But we believe that in the next few days, there would be very dramatic progress on the war against the Abu Sayyaf," Tiglao said.

Defensive

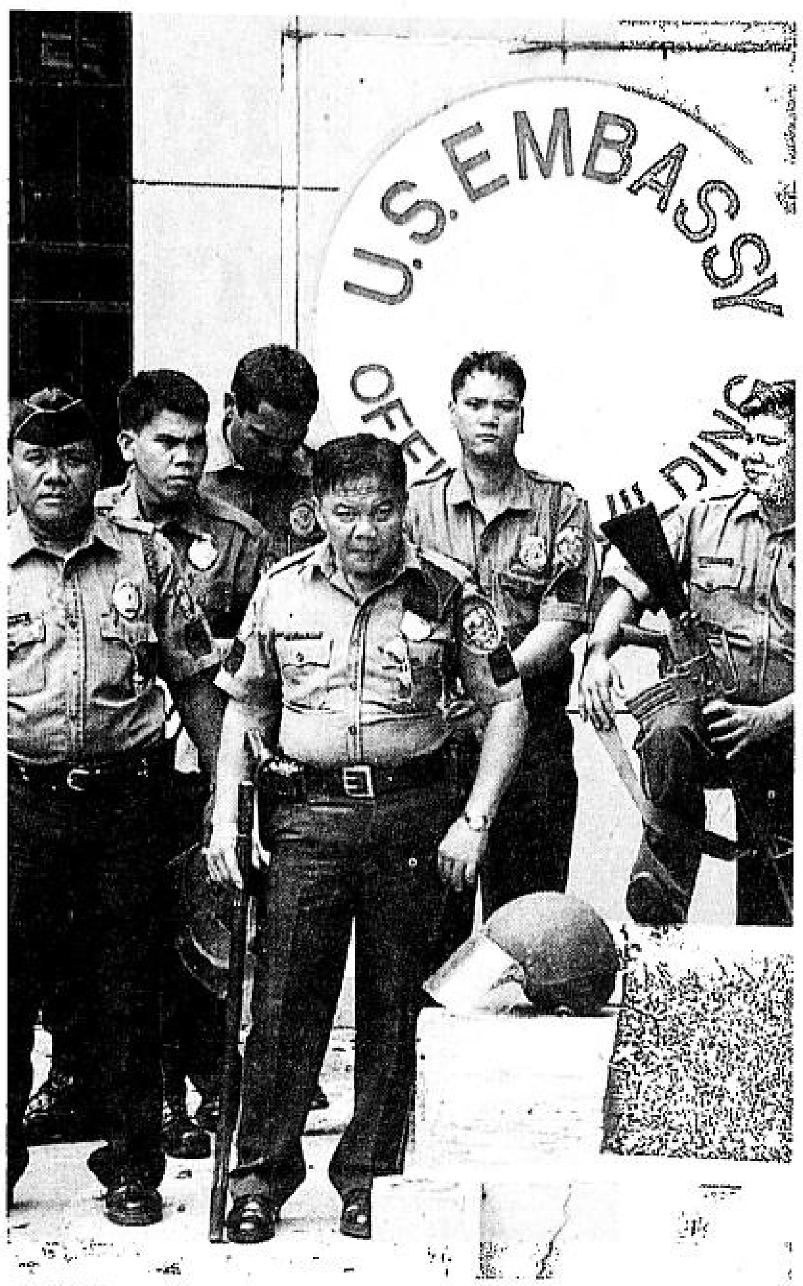
"The Abu Sayyaf is on the defensive right now . . . They are hurting right now," National Security Adviser Jose Roilo Golez said, noting the mounting casualties of the bandit group.

"We hope that the Abu Sayyaf terrorists would be further decimated by this major encounter," he said.

Before the offensives, Golez said the Abu Sayyaf had an armed force of about 1,100 to 1,200 members. Military operations have resulted in the killing of about 100 bandits, the capture of 180, and the surrender of 90 others.

"We are talking now of a severely reduced strength of the Abu Sayyaf, down to less than 850 and decreasing every day," he said.

Cimatu clarified that while government forces had made contact with the Abu Sayyaf, it would not be accurate to say that the bandits had been cordoned off.



SECURITY makes the US Embassy here a veritable fortress. ERIK ARAZAS

"The battlefield is a large coconut plantation so our cordon is not that tight," he said.

According to the AP report, three arrested bandits led troops Friday to a mountainous jungle site in Basilan where Sobero was allegedly tied to a tree and beheaded.

They recovered leg bones, a tattered blue-striped shirt and a pair of sandals and shorts believed to have been worn by Sobero. Searchers later recovered a skull near the area.

Military officials said the remains would have to be subjected to DNA and other tests to determine if they were Sobero's.

. Members of the Abu Sayyaf, who claim to be fighting for a separate Islamic nation in the southern Philippines, are regarded by the government as bandits thriving on kidnappings.

They have links with Saudi exile Osama bin Laden, the prime suspect in the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks in the United States.

Guingona

The government did not coordinate the military's latest offensive against the Abu Sayyaf with the United States, according to Vice President and Foreign Secretary Teofisto Guingona Jr.

Earlier in the day, Foreign Undersecretary Merlin Magallona said the United States could have offered its help to fight the Abu Sayyaf, which is in the US state department's list of international terrorists.

"No, this is our own (decision)," Guingona said when asked if the government coordinated with Washington.

He added that the United States did not assist the Philippine military "because they are busy with their own attack (on Afghanistan)."

Magallona said the Philippines might be directly drawn in the global fight against terrorism, with the possibility of the Abu Sayyaf being the next target of the US-led international coalition against Bin Laden's terrorist networks.

He also raised the possibility that the United States might ask the Philippines "that it participate in the campaign versus the Abu Sayyaf."

"Our policymakers should really take extra caution in identifying our own interests and to safeguard involvement in incidents which would excite the passions of our local Muslim population," he said.

Magallona spoke to reporters after the Senate hearing looking into the 2002 budget of the Department of Foreign Affairs. He was asked to comment on how the government should react on the possibility of the US offer to help the country in going after the Abu Sayyaf. ***With reports from AP, Martin P. Marfil, Dona Pazzibugan and Christine O. Avendaño***

Abu Sayyaf bombs 2 hotels in Zambo

(From page A1)

Golez said in Manila that the attacks were the handiwork of the Abu Sayyaf, which was set up in the early 1990s with seed money from Osama bin Laden, the prime suspect in last month's deadly terrorist attacks in the United States.

Asked if the attacks were related to the US and British retaliatory air strikes, Golez told dzRH radio: "There is a big possibility that these could be diversionary attacks."

A Cabinet oversight committee on internal security, which met yesterday morning and assessed the situation in Mindanao, concluded that the bombings were meant to divert military attention from the Abu Sayyaf in Basilan.

Golez said the bandits wanted to ease military pressure on the Abu Sayyaf in Basilan, where the bandits are holding 18 hostages, including an American Christian missionary couple.

Fifteen Abu Sayyaf gunmen were reportedly killed Sunday in a fierce firefight near the Basilan town of Lantawan, while 17 soldiers were wounded, said Lt. Gen. Roy Cimatu, head of the Southern command. ***Reports from AFP, Christine Herrera and Martin P. Marfil***

FIRST PHILIPPINE LOCAL GOVERNANCE CONGRESS

In Celebration of the 10th Anniversary of the Local Government Code 1991

October 9 and 10, 2001
Manila Midtown Hotel
Ermita, Manila

Theme: SAGOT NG PAMAHALAANG LOKAL
Pagkain, Edukasyon, Tahanan, Trabaho at Kalusugan, Katiwasayan, Kalikasan at Kahgalinagna Panlipunan

October 10 this year marks the 10th anniversary of the signing into law of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the local Government Code of 1991. To underscore the importance of the occasion on a nationwide scale, the Department of the Interior and Local government (DILG), the agency that has assumed a significant role in the code's implementation has launched Project 10.10.10.

Project 10.10.10 aims to look back at experiences and lessons gained during the last 20 years in local governance and the attendant struggle towards decentralization in the order to set strategic direction in strengthening local autonomy during the next decade.

Since its launching in August, the project has undertaken a series of enrolled activities in such areas as policy and advocacy, , capability building, best practices in local governance, and people's participation. Among specific activities undertaken under the project are local governance forum, congress of local government women executives, local health reform summits, NGA-leagues consultations, local governance forum on red tape, policy dialogue series, state of the world's children report, and local government sa Kanayunan, Seminar on indicators for good governance, validation of training modules on gender, local governance forums, validation workshop on the results of the project, formulation of performance indicators and standards for local development administration, roundtable discussion on poverty reduction through improved governance, women and children in governance conference, launching of the consortium of centers for local government, city mayors' forum on poverty education on good urban governance. Others enrolled activities include seminar-workshop series on municipal bonds, LCE governance and accountability course, orientation and refresher courses for local; elected officials and showcases of best practices, *Ugnayan ng Timog at Hilaga sa Lokal na pamamahala*, LMP national convention, *Liga ng mga Barangay* national convention, orientation, and refresher courses for local elected officials and showcases of best practices, launching of provincial capitol exhibits in local governments, working conference on information technology and local governance; best practices in the Philippines, Korea and Singapore.

Highlight of the anniversary observance is the holding of the First Philippine Local Governance Congress at the Manila Midtown Hotel on October 9 and 10 with the theme: *Sagot ng Pamahalaang Lokal-Pagkain, Edukasyon, Tahanan, Trabaho at Kalusugan, Katiwasayan, Kdlikasan at Kagalingang Panlipunan"*, in response to the President's call for good governance and poverty reduction.

Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo

Secretary Jose D. Lina, Jr.

President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo is the keynote speaker. Participants will present the consolidated, finalized results of Project 10.10.10 to the President.

The first Philippines Local Governance congress is a gathering of stakeholders and direct beneficiaries of devolution and local autonomy – which include local government units, donor agencies, government agencies, the academe, private sector and civil society organizations – to formulate meaningful policy reforms, consolidate capability-building programs, facilitate the adoption of effective operational practices and strengthen the partnership bond among them. In preparation, forums, trainings, seminars and dialogues and cluster meetings have been held in various locations throughout the country during the past three months in consolidating and strengthening efforts in local governance.

Project 10.10.10 is a manifestation of the support of the Filipino people to the administration's call for good governance. Together with the DILG, among the cooperating agencies are: the United Nations Development Program, Australian Agency for International Development, United States Agency for International Development – AGILE, World Bank, University of the Philippines, Ateneo de Manila, Philippine Partnership for the Development of Human Resources in Rural Areas, and the Philippine Business for Social Progress.

Program of Activities

TIME	DAY 1: OCTOBER 9 ACTIVITIES
1:00-1:30	Registration of Participants
1:30-2:30	Opening Ceremony
	Philippine National Anthem and Doxology Welcome Message and Formal Opening of the Congress *Secretary Jose D. Lina, Jr.* Overview of the Congress *Undersecretary Eduardo Soliman, Jr.* Opening of the Exhibit Gallery and LGU Market Fair
2:30-4:00	Concurrent Discussion Group Group 1: Local Government Code Amendments Group 2: People's Participation, Ethics, Transparency and Accountability Group 3: Financing LGU Programs Group 4: Peace and Order and Public Safety
4:30-6:00	Concurrent Discussion Groups Group 5: Urban Development and Housing Group 6: Food Security Group 7: Employment and Job Generation Group 8: Social Services, Environment and Natural Resources: *(Health, Education, Social Welfare, Environment & Natural Resources)*
6:00-6:30	Dinner and Fellowship Night

PRE-CONGRESS ACTIVITIES

07-09 October

Crafting the Civil Society Agenda for Participatory Governance in the Next Decade of Local Autonomy
(Traders Hotel)

08-09 October

Roundtable Discussion on Poverty Reduction Through Improved Governance

League of Cities of the Philippines
Westin Philippine Plaza, Manila

09 October (AM)

General Assembly League of Provinces of the Philippines
Manila Midtown Hotel, Manila

TIME	DAY 2: OCTOBER 10 ACTIVITIES
8:30-9:00	Registration / Viewing of Exhibit
9:00-9:05	Philippine National Anthem
9:05-10:00	Synthesis of Group Discussion Outputs
10:00-11:30	Launching of Good Local Governance Initiatives and MOA Signing between LGUs and Selected NGAs
12:30-12:45	Arrival of the President
12:45-1:00	Oathtaking of ULAP Officers
1:00-1:15	Local Governance Report and Presentation of the Highlights of Congress Declaration *Secretary Jose D. Lina, Jr.*
1:15-1:20	Signing of the Declaration of the Philippine Local Governance Congress
1:20-1:25	Introduction of Guest of Honor and Keynote Speaker *Executive Secretary Alberto Romulo*
1:25-1:40	Keynote Address: Her Excellency *President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo*
2:00-2:15	Adjournment of the Congress

PROJECT 10.10.10

CONVERGENCE FOR EXCELLENCE IN LOCAL GOVERNANCE – DILG Secretary Jose D. Lina, Jr. (third from left) leads national and local, officials in launching Project 10.10.10 at the Sulu Hotel, Quezon City recently. With Secretary Lina are from left James Marty Lim, President, *Liga ng mga Barangay*; Mayor Ramon Gulco, Jr., President, League of Municipalities of the Philippines; Department of Budget & Management Secretary Emilia Boncodin; Dr. Chit Tapales of UP-Center for Local & Regional Governance; Dr. Terrence Jones of UNDP; Mr. Jesus Tirona of LGUGC; and Ka Oca Santos of *Galing Pook*.

‘Philippine Sea’ fired 5 Tomahawks

(From page A1)

firing aft. Do not go aft. If you're aft, take cover."

Later, the captain who could only be identified by his first name, Chris, said, "the bolts that held the missile into the cell didn't release. I don't know why."

Still, he described the military action as "a very successful night."

The USS Philippine Sea is part of the USS Enterprise battle group. But, citing security concerns, the captain of the Philippine Sea declined to reveal even an approximate location for the cruiser.

The admiral of the USS Enterprise, a battle group with 7,500 people and many ships, said he could only say that the aircraft carrier itself was operating in the northern Indian Ocean. Shortly before the action began, the captain of the Philippine Sea addressed the ship.

In his announcement over the public address system at 6:15 p.m., the captain said, "In about a half (an) hour, we will be launching Tomahawks. We didn't start this on the 11th of September but we are going to finish it. I know your courage is there and I know your commitment is there."

Forty-one minutes later, the first of the five Tomahawks was fired.

Secrecy critical

Sunday was the first time journalists were allowed access to US military facilities in the region, which have been on high alert since the attacks on the World Trade Center in New York and the Pentagon.

Earlier Sunday, aboard the USS Enterprise, the admiral instructed journalists not to use his name and said the secrecy surrounding the operations was critical.

"We have absolutely nothing to hide, but a lot of things to protect," he said. "We're facing new danger, and we have to take precautions."

The US defense department laid down a policy of providing no last names for its people except those in command positions, according to officials aboard the ships. Those in command positions were given a choice about letting reporters use last names. The captain of the USS Philippine Sea, like his superiors on the USS Enterprise aircraft carrier, decided to allow use of his first name only.

Finally here

The sight of missiles streaking across the night sky toward Afghanistan brought home the reality for battle-ready US sailors playing their part in the first strike in the war on terrorism.

"It's finally here," said Ensign Holman, 27, of Grand Rapids, Michigan, of his first thought upon hearing that the initial strikes were coming.

Holman, an assistant strike officer, helped coordinate and organize the launch of Tomahawk cruise missiles against military installations of Afghanistan's ruling Taliban and the training camps of Osama bin Laden's al-Qaida terrorist network.

"It's kind of shocking. I've been here training two years for this to actually happen . . . It's kind of overwhelming," said strike officer Lt. Brandon, 26, of Waterloo, Iowa.

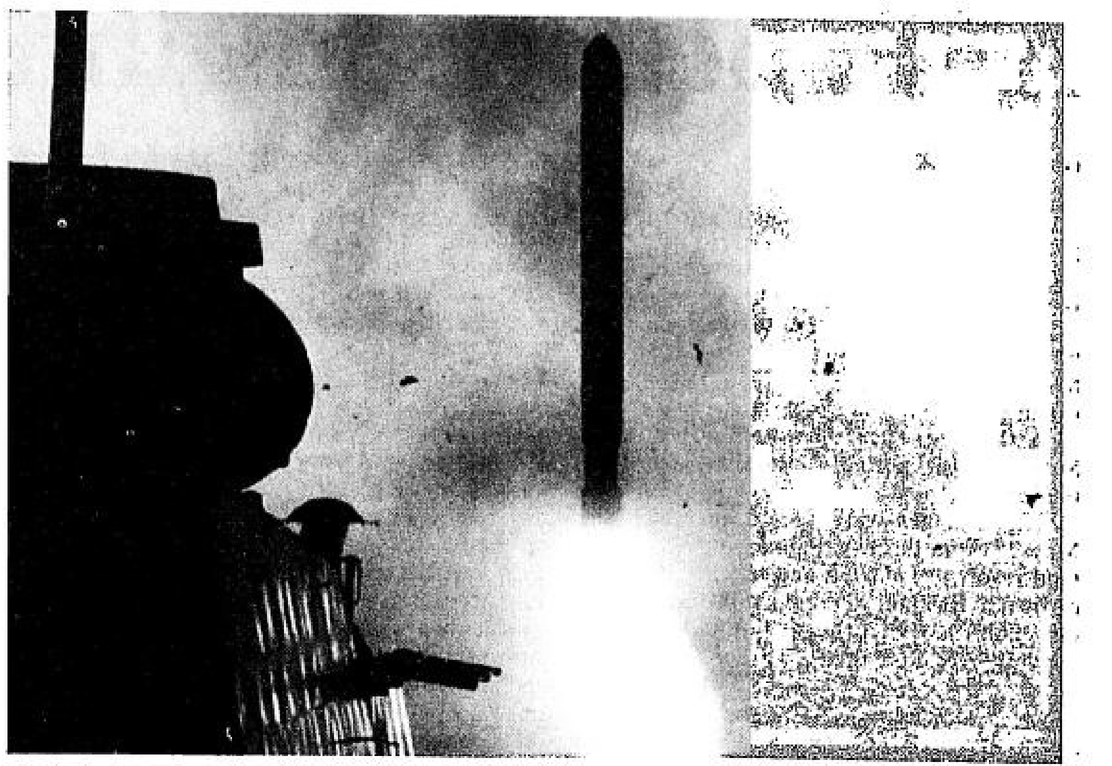
Secrecy shrouds every step of the US-led military campaign, with most officers unable to provide their full names or wanting to specify the missiles' targets.

However, reports soon emerged of the US-British action against Afghanistan.

"Is that awesome or what?" said the captain of the USS Philippine Sea as missiles streaked through the sky toward their targets. He spoke as the final missile thundered away, its booster separating and dropping into the sea.

"We were a very small part of a very, very large event that's happening tonight," the captain said after the last missile was out of sight.

He confirmed only that the action was part of the US military's Operation Enduring Freedom and said: "I think our enemies have underestimated our resolve." *AP*



FILE photo of a Tomahawk cruise missile launched from the USS Philippine Sea headed for a target in Kosovo on March 23, 2001.

AFP

JOAN BONDOC

"STAR" witness Ador Mawanay gets what he wanted for his security and that of his family.

Gift or gag? . . .

(From page A1)

received from the Department of Justice yesterday morning a letter indicating his acceptance into the government's Witness Protection Program.

Just last Saturday the controversial witness against Sen. Panfilo Lacson was complaining to the INQUIRER that his two-month-old application to the WPP seemed to have hit a dead end. His dire straits, which had compelled him to sell T-shirts to raise money for his sons' education, were the subject of a story in the next day's issue.

The DOJ letter signed by State Prosecutor Leo P. Dacera III said Mawanay's admission into the program began on Sept. 14.

For six months onward, he will enjoy "benefits" including temporary shelter, reimbursement of "reasonable" travel expenses, subsistence allowance and security protection, it said.

The benefits will be subject to a periodic review.

Serving as a one-man text brigade, lawyer Argee Guevarra told reporters that his client's acceptance into the WPP indicated that the government found his testimony "truthful and credible."

Mawanay had accused Lacson of virtually turning the defunct Presidential Anti-Organized Crime Task Force into a criminal syndicate by using its civilian agents and assets as cohorts in kidnapping, drug trafficking and smuggling.

But a member of Justice Secretary Hernando Perez's staff said speculations were rife that given the INQUIRER story, Mawanay's application was accepted to "appease and silence him momentarily."

Finalizing details

Along with Guevarra and his military escorts, Mawanay is expected to visit the DOJ main building this morning to finalize the details of his benefits.

As things now stand, Mawanay has been receiving a monthly food allowance of P15,000 from the Intelligence Service of the Armed Forces of the Philippines since Isafp chief Col. Victor Corpus took him in protective custody three months ago.

He is unsure now whether the Isafp will still provide him this benefit under the new arrangement.

Mawanay had told the INQUIRER of his preference to remain in the Isafp compound in Camp Aguinaldo. He is also likely to inform the DOJ that he would rather have Isafp agents as bodyguards.

Skirting procedures

But there are indications that the DOJ skirted certain procedures when it included Mawanay in its protection program.

When the INQUIRER sought comment from the DOJ regarding his complaint, it said he could not be admitted unless he filed a formal charge in court against Lacson.

Also according to the DOJ, Mawanay is a witness in a Senate investigation of Lacson's alleged criminal involvement, and witnesses in Senate inquiries are not covered by the WPP.

Section 4 of the Witness Protection Act states that the head of the legislative chamber using a witness as a resource person in a committee investigation should make an endorsement addressed to the DOJ before a person can be accepted into the program.

In Mawanay's case, Senate President Franklin Drilon should endorse his inclusion upon the request of the Senate committee on public order and illegal drugs, which is leading the probe on Lacson's supposed involvement in drug trafficking.

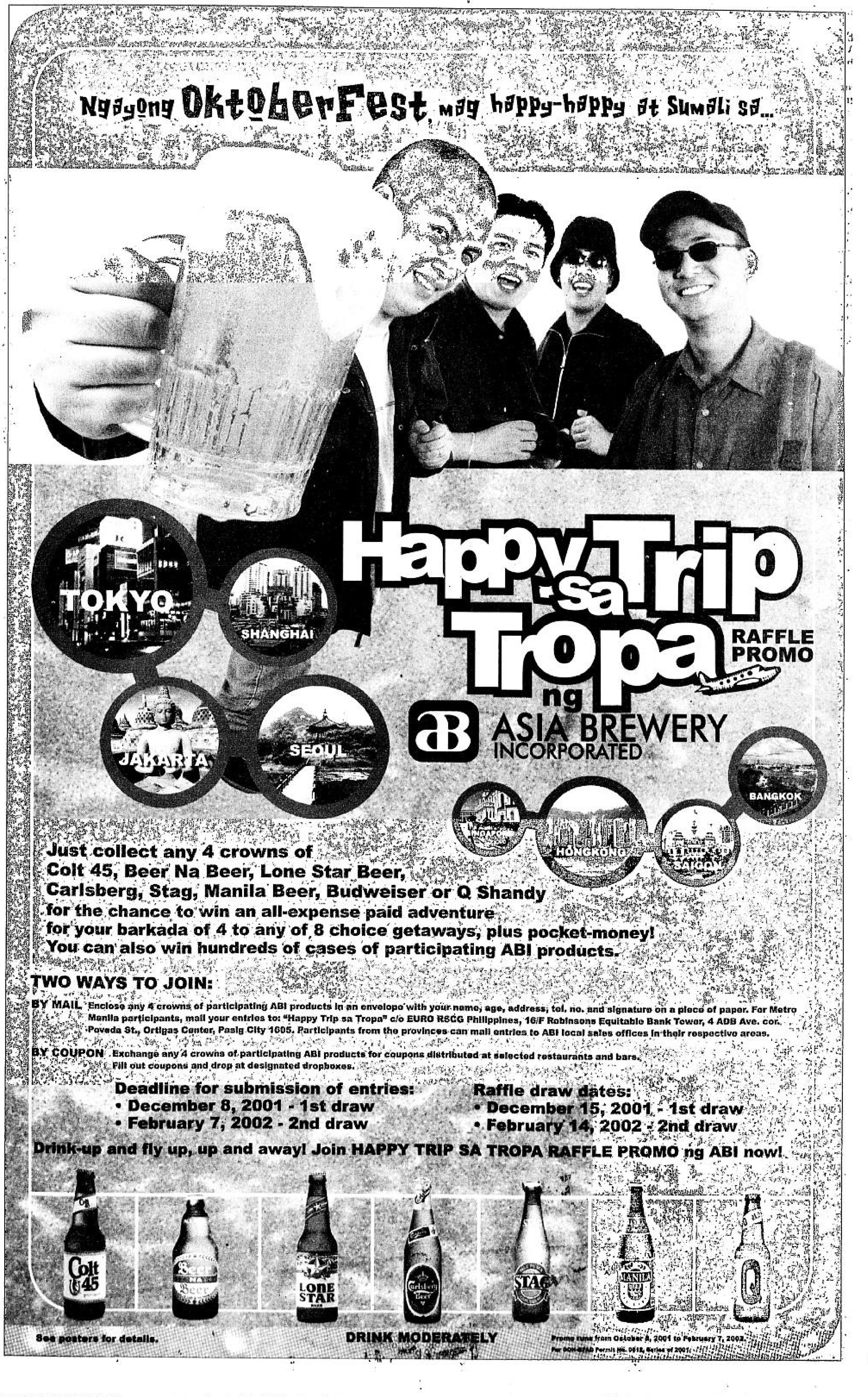
But lawyer Renato Bantug of the Office of the Senate President said it had no record that Drilon endorsed Mawanay.

There is also no indication that Sen. Robert Barbers, chair of the committee on public order, has requested Drilon to make the endorsement, according to committee secretary Xerxes Nitafan.

In fact, Nitafan said, the committee had not yet even evaluated Mawanay's testimony.

But State Prosecutor Dacera said the DOJ decided not to wait anymore for the endorsement because its evaluators had recognized the dangers facing Mawanay, including the death threats that he had supposedly received.

Guevarra, on the other hand, said Mawanay's "intention to file a complaint" against Lacson and his plan to testify in court against the senator were enough reasons to be included in the WPP.



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Per DOH-BFAD Permit No. 0618, Series of 2001.

It's only the beginning

(From page A1)

the raid, according to US Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld.

Instead, the Pentagon is directing military action at the Taliban's sources of strength within Afghanistan.

"It's going to be shake and bake until we smoke them out," said one defense official who did not want to be identified.

In a televised address shortly after the strikes had begun before midnight Sunday (local time), US President George W. Bush said that American and British forces had "carefully targeted" military installations and terrorist training camps . . . We will not waver, we will not tire."

The campaign against terrorism will be "sustained, comprehensive and relentless," a resolute Bush also told a worldwide television audience.

An initial goal of the strikes was to disable air defenses and to wipe out the military aircraft of Afghanistan's ruling Taliban, thus making conditions safer for further US military and humanitarian action, he said.

Officials said a goal was to improve the chances of the Northern Alliance, also known as the United Front, in seeking to overthrow the Taliban regime that has harbored Bin Laden's al-Qaida terrorist network.

Officials said to expect air strikes lasting at least several days before US and British forces move on to other phases of the anti-terrorist campaign.

The campaign will be conducted in phases over a period of time with air strikes intended to clear the way for ground operations of the Northern Alliance and US special forces.

'Enduring Freedom'

Operation "Enduring Freedom" began with an opening salvo of about 50 Tomahawk cruise missiles fired from four US warships and two submarines—one British and the other American, a Pentagon official said.

They were followed by waves of attacking aircraft, he said.

BRITISH missile-firing submarine like this one in this file photo was part of the military strikes against the Taliban regime. AFP

Fifteen long-range bombers, including B-2 stealth bombers, B-1 Lancers and B-52 Stratofortresses, dropped mainly precision weapons but also some conventional bombs, military officials said.

Twenty-five F/A-18 and F-14 fighters from the aircraft carriers, USS Enterprise and USS Carl Vinson positioned in the Arabian Sea, also took part in the raids, they said.

The B-52 bombers flew strikes all the way from Whiteman Air Force Base in Missouri, and then refueled at a base in the region. After dropping their satellite-guided bombs known as Joint Direct Attack Munitions, the bombers flew on to the British island of Diego Garcia in the Indian Ocean.

Support planes included Navy EA-6B electronic warfare aircraft and E2-C Hawkeye early warning radar planes as well as American and British tankers that refueled the bombers on their long-range strikes.

Two C-17 cargo planes followed in the wake of the attacks, dropping some 37,500 packets of high-protein food rations and medicines to Afghan refugees. The Bush administration hoped the supplies would soften the war's blow for hungry Afghans and those who had fled their homes in anticipation of fighting, as well help convince them the strike was aimed at terrorists and not them.

At the same time, Air Force EC-130 Commando Solo aircraft equipped for radio broadcasting flew over the area and broadcast that message, officials said. Other undisclosed radio messages were directed at the Taliban.

Assessing damage

Rumsfeld said it was too early to tell whether the strikes were successful.

This was echoed by a Pentagon spokesperson who said a damage assessment was taking place. It was also too early to say if there were civilian casualties. A check of Kabul's four hospitals turned up no reports of casualties, he said.

Thirty targets in Afghanistan were hit, according to the first official assessment released by the British. Defense Secretary Geoff Hoon said civilians had not been targeted, although anti-aircraft fire and explosions could have given a false impression that civilian areas were attacked.

The chief of the British defense staff, Admiral Michael Royce, said that of the 30 targets, three were in the Afghanistan capital of Kabul and four others close to other urban areas. He said the other 23 targets were in remote, uninhabited areas.

The chief spokesperson of the Northern Alliance, Abdullah Abdullah, said the targets were accurately hit in all cities and at least two terrorist training camps near Kabul and Kandahar, the Taliban's spiritual capital and headquarters of Omar.

The Taliban headquarters in Kandahar, the city's airport facilities, housing for followers of Bin Laden and the home of a Taliban leader were also hit, Afghan sources said.

People ran from their homes and thick clouds of smoke engulfed Kandahar during the first strikes, according to a trickle of witnesses who crossed the Afghan border into Pakistan on Monday.

Sources in Afghanistan said the strike began as darkness fell in the capital, Kabul, and that a loud explosion came from the area about 20 kilometers south of Jalalabad that was known to be a training camp of Bin Laden.

Visible and invisible

The United States will also conduct operations inside Afghanistan that will not be seen publicly, Gen. Richard Myers, chair of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said in an apparent reference to the use of special operations ground forces.

"While today's (Sunday) operations are visible, many other operations may not be so visible," Myers said. "But visible or not, our friends and enemies should understand that all instruments of our national power as well as those of our friends and allies around the world are being brought to bear on this global menace."

The day after the attacks in Afghanistan, Rumsfeld planned a media blitz with various television appearances to explain details of the military operation to an already supportive American public. A survey released yesterday by the Washington Post and ABC News found that 94 percent backed the military action and just as many supported the way President George W. Bush was handling the crisis. *Reports from AP, AFP and Reuters*

US planes and bombs used in first wave of attacks

BOMBERS

B-1B Lancer is the backbone of America's long-range bomber force providing massive and rapid delivery of precision and non-precision weapons against any adversary anywhere around the globe on short notice.

- Primary function: Long-range, multi-role, heavy bomber
- Length: 44.5 meters
- Wingspan: 41.8 meters extended forward, 24.1 meters swept aft
- Height:10.4 meters
- Weight: Empty, approximately 86,183 kilograms
- Maximum takeoff weight:216,634 kg
- Speed: 900-plus mph (Mach 1.2 at sea level)
- Range: Intercontinental, unrefueled
- Armament: Three internal weapons bays can accommodate up to 84 Mk-82 general purpose bombs or Mk-62 naval mines, 30 CBU-87/89 cluster munitions or CBU-97 Sensor Fused Weapons and up to 24 GBU-31 JDAM GPS guided bombs or Mk-84 general purpose bombs
- Unit cost: $200-plus million per aircraft

B-2 Spirit (Stealth bomber) is a multi-role bomber capable of delivering both conventional and nuclear munitions. The B-2 brings massive firepower to bear, in a short time, anywhere on the globe through previously impenetrable defenses.

- Primary function: Multi-role heavy bomber.
- Length: 20.9 meters
- Height: 5.1 meters
- Wingspan: 52.12 meters
- Speed: High subsonic
- Range: Intercontinental, unrefueled
- Armament: Conventional or nuclear weapons
- Unit cost: Approximately $1.3 billion

B-52 Stratofortress is a long-range, heavy bomber that can perform a variety of missions. The bomber is capable of flying at high subsonic speeds at altitudes up to 15,166.6 meters. It can carry nuclear or precision guided conventional ordnance with worldwide precision navigation capability.

- Primary function: Heavy bomber
- Length: 48.5 meters
- Height: 12.4 meters
- Wingspan: 56.4 meters
- Speed: 650 miles per hour (Mach 0.86)
- Weight: Approximately 83,250 kilograms empty
- Range: Unrefueled 8,800 miles
- Armament: Approximately 31,500 kilograms of mixed ordnance—bombs, mines and missiles. (Modified to carry air-launched cruise missiles, Harpoon anti-ship and Have Nap missiles.)
- Unit cost: $74 million

CRUISE MISSILES

Cruise missile is a generic term for self-propelled guided weapons which fly like normal aircraft for much of their flight.

Tomahawk Cruise Missile is a long range, subsonic cruise missile used for land attack warfare, launched from surface ships and submarines for striking high value or heavily defended land targets. Designed to fly at extremely low altitudes at high subsonic speeds and are piloted over an evasive route by several missions tailored guidance systems.

- Length: 5.56 meters; with booster: 6.25 meters
- Range: 1,609 km
- Guidance system: TERCOM, DSMAC, and GPS (Block III only)
- Warheads: 1,000 pounds or conventional submunitions dispenser with combined effect bomblets.
- Unit cost: approximately $600,000 (from the last production contract)

Joint Direct Attack Munition (JDAM), one of the "smart bombs, it is a guidance tail kit that converts unguided free-fall bombs into accurate, adverse weather "smart" munitions. In its most accurate mode, the JDAM system will provide a weapon circular error probable of 13 meters or less during free flight when GPS data is available.

- Length: (JDAM and warhead) GBU-31 (v) 1/B: 60.1 centimeters; GBU-31(v) 3/B: 58.5 centimeters; GBU-32 (v) 1/B: 47 centimeters Launch Weight: (JDAM and warhead) GBU-31 (v) 1/B: 925.4 kg, GBU-31 (v) 3/B: 961.4 kg; GBU-32 (v) 1/B: 460.5 kg
- Range: Up to 15 miles
- Unit cost: Approximately $21,000 per tailkit (FY 01 dollars)

AGM-86B air-launched cruise missiles and AGM-86C conventional air-launched cruise missiles were developed to increase the effectiveness of B-52H bombers. It is an air-to-ground strategic cruise missile.

- Length: 6.3 meters
- Range: AGM-86B: 1,500-plus miles; AGM-86C: 600 nautical miles (nominal); classified (specific)
- Warheads: AGM-86B, nuclear capable; AGM-86C; Block 0, 2,000 pound class, and Block I , 3,000 pound class
- Unit cost: AGM-86B, $1 million; AGM-86C, additional $160,000 conversion cost

SOURCE:

US Air Force Fact Sheets & US Navy Fact File

US will never 'dream of security'

(From page A1)

all the infidel armies leave the land of Muhammad, peace be upon him," Bin Laden said in the video.

The interview appeared to have been made in daylight. This would mean that it was recorded before the US-led bombing raids on Afghanistan, which, according to the Afghan Islamic Press (AIP), killed at least 20 people in Kabul.

The AIP, based in Peshawar in neighboring Pakistan, said that 10 people were killed near Kabul airport on the northeastern edge of the capital, and that another 10 died when a bomb fell near the Voice of Shariat radio office in central Kabul.

Kabul residents confirmed there had been deaths.

"I was wounded in Karte Nau" to the east of the city, said one Taliban fighter nursing injuries to his hands and leg. "It was a military position and I lost four of my friends."

Bin Laden, who the United States believes orchestrated the terror attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, also heaped praise on those responsible for the Sept. 11 strikes.

"God" hit America "in one of its softest spots," he said. "Its greatest buildings were destroyed, thank God for that."

However, he did not claim responsibility for the attacks that killed more than 6,000 people, saying these were the work of "a group of Muslims."

Alive

Abdul Salam Zaeef, the Taliban ambassador to Pakistan, confirmed Monday that Bin Laden "is alive."

"We are not making any contact with Osama but he is staying inside Afghanistan," Zaeef said through an interpreter at a press conference in Islamabad.

Bin Laden's war on America has been fueled in part by anger over US support for Israel in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and the presence of US troops in Saudi Arabia, home to Islam's holiest shrines, including the tomb of the prophet Muhammad.

In his address he said America was "tasting now . . . something insignificant" compared to what the Islamic world had tasted for 80 years.

He did not elaborate, but apparently was referring to European powers carving up Arab lands after World War I when the Ottoman Empire collapsed.

RARE video appearance of the alleged terror mastermind, Osama bin Laden, recorded "very recently," at an undisclosed site in Afghanistan, is shown a few hours after the start of the US-British strikes on Afghanistan. AFP

Britain began its rule of pre-Israel Palestine under the 1922 League of Nations mandate. During the same period, princes from the Arabian Peninsula were installed to rule desert kingdoms that evolved into the nations of Saudi Arabia, Jordan and Iraq.

White House spokesperson Ari Fleischer said US officials were skeptical of the Bin Laden tape that showed him sitting in a stone cave and flanked by two aides.

"The Taliban and Osama bin Laden have said all kinds of things that are often at odds with reality," Fleischer said. "What he says is not as important as what he's done."

But Taliban Ambassador Zaeef confirmed that the video of Bin Laden was filmed inside Afghanistan.

"Innocent children are being killed until this moment in Iraq and we hear no denunciation and we don't hear of any step (taken) by (Arab) rulers and sultans" Bin Laden said in the video.

"Israeli tanks are wreaking havoc in Palestine—in Jenin, Ramallah, Rafah and Beit Jala and other parts of the land of Islam, but no one raises his voice (in protest) or bats an eyelash," he said.

Best ever

This was Bin Laden's "best PR stunt ever," said Jeddah-based journalist Jamal Khashoggi, who interviewed the gaunt gray-bearded militant several times from 1987 until he took shelter in Taliban-ruled Afghanistan in 1996.

But Khashoggi pointed out that Bin Laden was, if anything, consistent with himself, having espoused the Palestinian cause since he joined the war against Soviet forces in Afghanistan in the 1980s.

In a speech he delivered in Jeddah in the mid-1980s to rally support for the Afghan jihad, Bin Laden stated clearly that once Soviet forces were out of Afghanistan, the next target would be Palestine, said Khashoggi, deputy editor of the Jeddah-based daily Arab News.

Unlike Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, who posed as defender of the Palestinians to divert attention from his occupation of Kuwait in 1990-1991, Bin Laden cannot be accused of opportunism, Khashoggi said.

"Palestine is his cause," Khashoggi said. "Each time I met him he would say the Muslims would remain humiliated so long as Al-Aqsa Mosque (Islam's third holiest shrine in east Jerusalem) is not liberated."

Khashoggi also said Bin Laden called for a boycott of US goods as far back as 1986.

As for Bin Laden's remarks on the Iraqis' plight, Khashoggi said, "if you ask (Arab League secretary general) Amr Mussa what the Arabs' and Muslims' grievances are, he will list Iraq" somewhere at the top.

In other words, Khashoggi said, Bin Laden merely listed Arab and Muslim grievances against the US government, concentrating his attack on American policies rather than on American values.

Defeated

In the video, Bin Laden's top deputy Ayman al-Zawahri, who also heads the Egyptian militant group Islamic Jihad, appeared at his side.

"People of America, your government is leading you into a losing battle," Al-Zawahri said. "Remember that your government was defeated in Vietnam, fled in panic from Lebanon, rushed out of Somalia, and was slapped across the face in Aden. Your government today is leading you into a losing war, where you will lose your sons and your money."

While most Gulf and other Arab governments have condemned the devastating attacks on New York and Washington, several Arab capitals, including Riyadh, have urged the US administration to strive for a just settlement of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict in order to eliminate one of the root causes of terrorism. *Reports from INQUIRER wires*

Bin Laden's brother lives in fear in Boston

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.—A half brother of Osama bin Laden who remained in Boston after the Sept. 11 attacks says he lives in fear that he will be blamed for the terrorist acts, which he condemns.

Abdullah Mohammed Binladin, 35, stayed behind when 11 members of his family boarded a chartered jet for Saudi Arabia shortly after the attacks.

But since Sept. 11, he has stopped using credit cards, stopped jogging along the Charles River, and avoids strangers who might hear his name and become upset.

He has also suspended his hobby of flying single-engine planes, fearing the reaction he might get.

"Our name is being hijacked," he told the Boston Sunday Globe, adding that most of the family members were using the spelling "Binladin.".

Abdullah is one of 54 children born to wives of the late Mohammed Bin-Awad Binladin.

The family disowned Osama bin Laden in 1994, and Abdullah says they have no connections with him.

"In the early 1990s, the family repeatedly reached out and made attempts to plead with Osama to moderate his views," Abdullah said. "After these attempts failed, there was a reluctant but unanimous consent that Osama should be disowned."

Abdullah learned of the terrorist attacks while buying coffee and watched on television as the second plane crashed into the World Trade Center. Soon after, Osama bin Laden was being named the prime suspect.

"I felt sad, that this is a tragedy for humanity," he said.

"And I felt, this is a tragedy for our family. How will people look at our family?"

Abdullah moved to the Boston area in the 1990s to study at Harvard Law School, where he earned a doctorate.

His father, originally from the Hadramaut region of Yemen, had no formal education. In the 1950s, he designed and built the al-Hada road, making it easier for Muslims to make the pilgrimage to Mecca in Saudi Arabia. He gained the trust of King Faisal and was granted the contract to rebuild the mosques in the holy cities of Mecca and Medina.

Later, in a move said to have finalized the split between Osama bin Laden and the rest of the family, the company built military support facilities for the United States during the Gulf War, said Charles Freeman, former US ambassador to Saudi Arabia.

Abdullah last saw Osama in 1988, at the funeral of their eldest brother Salem who died in a plane crash.

"He had been living most of the time in Afghanistan," Abdullah recalled. "I personally didn't know him very well." *AP*

Northern Alliance . . .

(From page A1)

tary attacks against Osama bin Laden and the Taliban.

Musharraf said he had told US President George W. Bush and British Prime Minister Tony Blair that "this action should not be allowed to be taken advantage of by the Northern Alliance."

"The Northern Alliance must not draw mileage out of this action and the post-action has to be balance," he added.

Pakistan has maintained close ties for years with the Taliban and is the only country that recognizes the Islamic militia as the legitimate government of Afghanistan.

The Pakistani concerns came at a time when US defense officials said one goal of the initial strike was to weaken the Taliban's military defenses so that rebel Afghans could advance in their effort to overthrow the Taliban.

US interest

"Our interest is to strengthen those forces that are opposed to al-Qaida and opposed to the Taliban leadership . . . so that they will have better opportunities to prevail," US Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld said.

In an offensive coordinated with the US-British air strikes Sunday, the Northern Alliance launched a rocket launcher attack on Taliban forces controlling the mountains north of Kabul.

The Taliban returned fire using Soviet-made BM-21 rockets, some exploding 200 meters from where foreign journalists were observing the attack.

The Northern Alliance, which has been battling the Taliban for years, hopes the US strikes will help in its struggle against the Islamic militia.

Pakistan fears a loss of influence in a volatile neighboring country if the Northern Alliance takes power.

Musharraf said that once the military campaign was over, efforts must be undertaken to ensure "the unity, the stability of Afghanistan and bring peace into Afghanistan."

He said that any future government must be broad-based and multiethnic and not "imposed on Afghanistan."

Afghanistan has been in almost constant conflict since the 1979 invasion of Soviet forces. US-backed guerrillas, who drove out the Soviets after a decade-long war, eventually formed the power base for the Taliban, which seized control of Kabul in 1996.

Afghanistan's former king, who lives in Rome, has held talks with Northern Alliance envoys to begin forming a new government that could replace the Taliban if it is toppled.

Iran opposes the Taliban, calling its puritanical version of Islam an affront to the faith and accusing it of profiting from drug traffic that passes through Iran.

Iran and Russia are helping to supply the Northern Alliance with weapons.

Arms from Russia

Russia has begun to deliver weapons to the Northern Alliance, Interfax quoted Russian officials as saying Monday.

Russia is believed to be planning a total shipment of up to $45 million worth of arms, including Soviet-era T-55 tanks, combat vehicles, small arms and ammunition.

Russian President Vladimir Putin signaled last month, following the Sept. 11 attacks on New York and Washington, that Moscow would be stepping up its weapons supply to the Northern Alliance.

Arms negotiations between the Russian government and the Afghan government-in-exile were made public last week by the Afghan Ambassador Abdul Wahab Assefi.

Speaking in the wake of the first US-led strikes on Afghanistan, Russian sources noted the timely start of the arms deliveries. *Reports from AP and AFP*

Bowe gets 18-month sentence

CHARLOTTE, North Carolina —Former heavyweight boxing champion Riddick Bowe, on trial for the abduction of his wife and five children in 1998, avoided prison time Friday when a federal judge gave him credit for the time he has spent on probation. After getting the case back from the 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, U.S. District Judge Graham Mullen sentenced Bowe to 18 months in prison and then released him on bond pending an appeal.

SPORTS

AL S. MENDOZA, Editor EDWIN M. VILLANUEVA, Assistant Editor

SPORTS ON TV
COMPILED BY LORENZO MANGUIAT

GOLF: Senior PGA Tour - Allianz Championship, Third Round at 2 p.m. (r) on Star Sports

TENNIS: WTA Tour Sparkassen Cup, Quarterfinal & Semifinal at 9 p.m. on Star Sports

AMERICAN FOOTBALL: NFL - St. Louis Rams vs Detroit Lions at midnight on ESPN

VOLLEYBALL: Jeep Copa America Volleyball at 11 a.m. on ESPN

SOCCER: Asian Super Cup 2001 - Suwon vs Al-Shabab (KSA) at 8 a.m. (r) on Star Sports

Schedules subject to change without prior notice.

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

Independence keys Delasin triumph

BY JONG ARCANO

DOROTHY Joy Delasin is enjoying the freedom she's been given by her father so much that the new princess of the LPGA gave the world another proof of how she can do things alone.

She won the Samsung World Championship over the biggest names in women's golf yesterday and the methodical manner with which she pulled it off jolted a circuit in which only three names have been virtually lording it over for quite sometime now.

After an Australian star (Karrie Webb), a Swede sensation (Annika Sorenstam) and a Korean heroine (Se Ri Pak), now comes Delasin, a certified Fil-American hotshot.

This time, they had to move over as Delasin turned the Hiddenbrooke course into her own playground with four straight sub-par rounds on the way to winning her second title this season and her biggest paycheck ever of $157,000 (about P8 million).

The 21-year-old Delasin fired a final round 3-under-69 yesterday with birdies on the last two holes for a 4-stroke victory over the heavily favored Pak and Webb, who carded 72s.

Delasin, who came here as a Cinnabon model last year to receive her Athlete of the Year award from the Philippine Sportswriters Association, totalled 277 against the 281s of Webb and Pak.

Delasin has been living on her own since the start of the season, renting an apartment in Albuquerque, New Mexico, where she now hones her game with regular caddie Clint Begay and Clint's brother Notah, a noted campaigner in the US PGA Tour. Dorothy has been living there since April.

"I think it's going to be like college life. You know, where you go out on your own and live," Delasin told the INQUIRER yesterday. "I'm learning a lot out here being out on Tour. I'm maturing, I think, as a person."

Dorothy went straight to the LPGA from high school and not a few people thought she made the wrong decision.

"I get a lot of compliments, people saying that I'm not any other 21 year old they know. I feel good about it," she said.

Her father, Sonny, said he just had to let go of Dorothy.

"I let her go because I know she can handle herself. It's quite different not to see her so often when all her life we've been playing and travelling together but it's her life to make and I'm glad she's taking the right path," Sonny said.

The elder Delasin said he really didn't mind hearing rumors about Dorothy having a relationship with her caddie.

Clint Begay has been prominently acknowledged in all her interviews and Dorothy practically credits Clint for causing the big turnaround in her budding career.

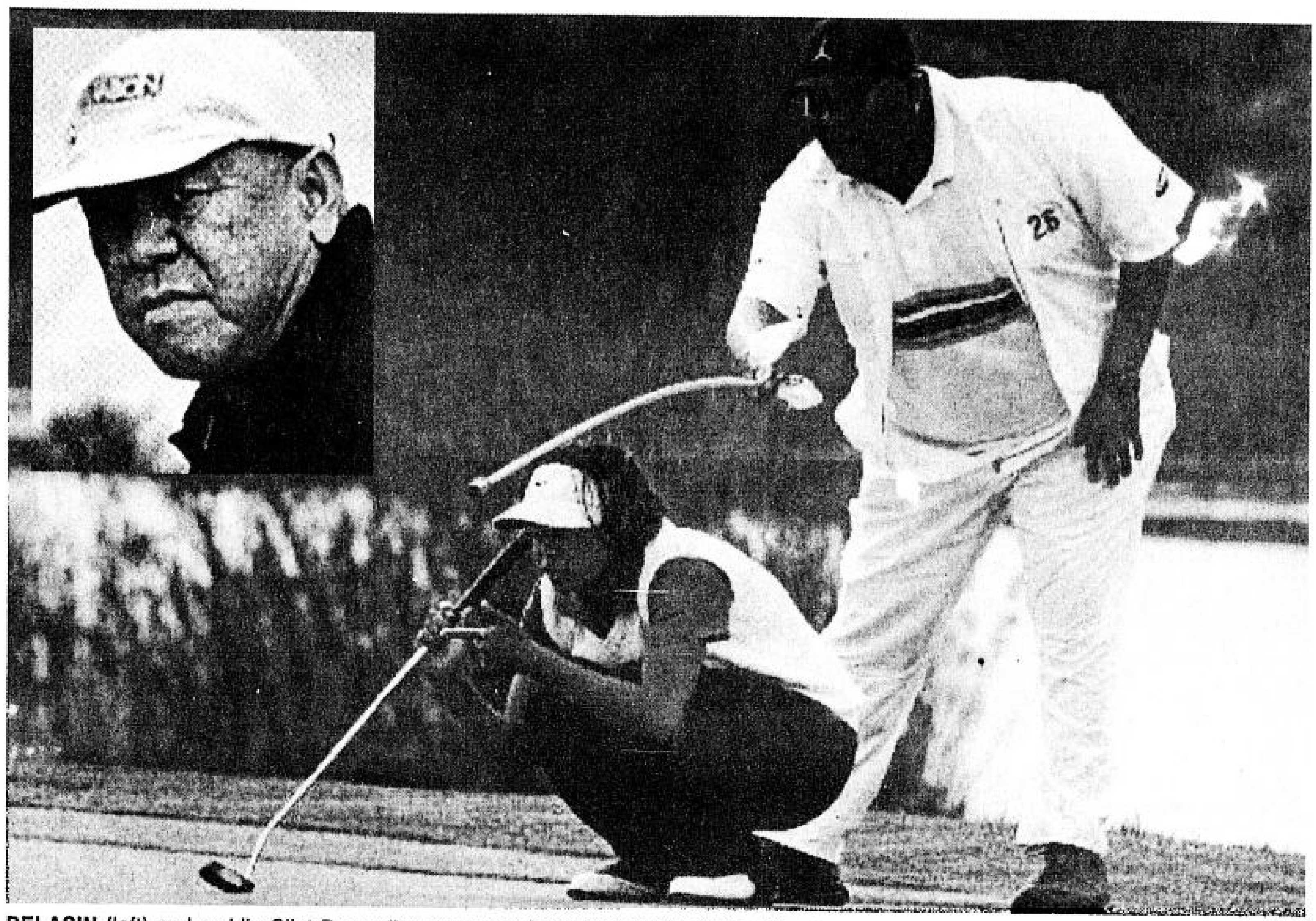
Dorothy and Clint went back to Albuquerque right after yesterday's victory and were not able to visit the dream house that Dorothy bought for her family which is only about 45 minutes away from the scene of her momentous triumph.

"I've asked her about it but Dot keeps on telling me they're just friends. But for whatever it is, it's her life now and I just hope that she'll be happy forever," Sonny said, his voice hoarse after engaging Pak's fans in a cheering duel yesterday.

Sonny Delasin also said that Dorothy had to call off stints in Korea and Japan due to warnings on the risks of travel by the United States especially after US-led troops bombed Afghanistan as soon as yesterday's final round had started.

"That was a big decision since all the three legs have pots of $1 million each," said Sonny. "But she felt safer to stay in America and prepare for the bigger one next month."

Final scores:
277 - Dorothy Delasin 70-71-67-69
281 - Karrie Webb (Aus) 72-67-70-72, Se Ri Pak (Kor) 70-72-67-72
284 - Kelly Robbins 71-75-72-66
286 - Emilee Klein 71-75-65-75
287 - Juli Inkster 74-70-68-75
288 - Mi Hyun Kim (Kor) 74-70-71-73
289 - Laura Diaz 77-70-74-68, Lorie Kane (Can) 78-69-71-71



DELASIN (left) and caddie Clint Begay line up a putt. Inset is Delasin's father, Sonny. AP

Pampanga hosts 'Sagupaan' tilt

PAMPANGA Coliseum, located in San Fernando City, Pampanga, presents another blockbuster stagfest on Oct. 18 via the Sagupaan 4-Stag Smalltime Derby.

A guaranteed prize of P200,000 is up for grabs in the event. Entry fee is P5,500.

Screening will be held on the day of the derby, from 6 a.m. to 12 noon.

Aside from the guaranteed prize, derby host Patrick Antonio will also give away a prized "sagupaan" trio for the champion, to give the winners a chance of further improving their lines of gamebirds.

The Sagupaan technical group, headed by Antonio, is also providing free technical support to neophyte breeders using the tried and tested training, feeding and conditioning methods that are actually used in the Sagupaan gamefarm of Antonio in Sta. Cruz, Laguna.

"I am willing to impart technical know-how to as many upcoming breeders as possible all over the country, to further develop the flourishing gamefowl industry. *Magtulungan tayo*," Antonio said.

Antonio, who is also the host of Sagupaan TV show on IBC-13 every Saturday (12:30 p.m. to 1 p.m.), said that upcoming breeders from Pampanga, Tarlac, Bataan, Nueva Ecija, Bulacan, Zambales and Pangasinan are taking part in the event.

Ucap derby tonight

BIG-TIME cockfighting action resumes at Mandaluyong Coliseum tonight as the 5th Ucap/Firebird 7-Stag Derby at 6 p.m. features more than 60 quality fights.

Sponsoring the meet are Sagupaan Super Feeds and Washout Shampoo.

Hotelier-sportsman Biboy Enriquez is hosting the battle of well-known cockers and breeders from the United Cockers Association of the Philippines (Ucap), National Cockers Association (NCA), NGBA, GFBAN, Migba and Pagba.

On tap today is the elimination round (3-stag), while the championship round (4-stag) blasts off on Thursday, Oct. 11. For other inquiries, please contact 531-4003, 531-4005, 534-4110 and 535-2341.

BASEBALL RESULTS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East	W	L	Pct	GB
x-New York	95	65	.594	
Boston	82	79	.509	13 1/2
Toronto	80	82	.494	16
Baltimore	63	98	.391	32 1/2
Tampa Bay	62	100	.383	34
Central				
x-Cleveland	91	71	.562	
Minnesota	85	77	.525	6
Chicago	83	79	.512	8
Detroit	66	96	.407	25
Kansas City	65	97	.401	26
West				
x-Seattle	116	46	.716	
y-Oakland	102	60	.630	14
Anaheim	75	87	.463	41
Texas	73	89	.451	43

x-clinched division
y-clinched wild card

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East	W	L	Pct	GB
x-Atlanta	88	74	.543	
Philadelphia	86	76	.531	2
New York	82	80	.506	6
Florida	76	86	.469	12
Montreal	68	94	.420	20
Central				
x-Houston	93	69	.574	
y-St. Louis	93	69	.574	
Chicago	88	74	.543	5
Milwaukee	68	94	.420	25
Cincinnati	66	96	.407	27
Pittsburgh	62	100	.383	31
West				
x-Arizona	92	70	.568	
San Francisco	90	72	.556	2
Los Angeles	86	76	.531	6
San Diego	79	83	.488	13
Colorado	73	89	.451	19

x-clinched division
y-clinched wild card

AMERICAN LEAGUE

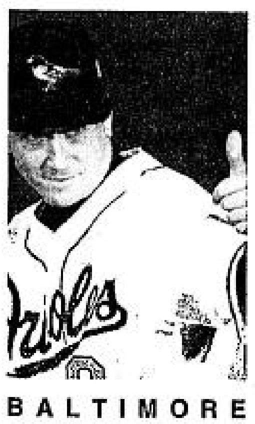
Cleveland 3, Toronto 2; Kansas City 10, Detroit 4; N.Y. Yankees 1, Tampa Bay 0; Minnesota 8, Chicago White Sox 5; Oakland 6, Anaheim 2; Texas 4, Seattle 3.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Florida 4, Atlanta 2; Montreal 5, N.Y. Mets 0; Philadelphia 4, Cincinnati 1; Milwaukee 16, Arizona 6; Houston 9, St. Louis 2; Pittsburgh 4, Chicago Cubs 3; San Francisco 2, Los Angeles 1; Colorado 14, San Diego 5. AP

Bonds hits No. 73

SAN FRANCISCO—Barry Bonds hit his 73rd home run, further extending the major league record he broke two days earlier.



BALTIMORE Orioles' Cal Ripken gives a thumbs-up during a ride around the stadium after finishing his career and final game Saturday night at Camden Yards in Baltimore. Ripken holds the record for most consecutive games: 2,632. AFP

Ubix-Riviera National Pro-Am stakes ₱1.5M

THE TOP 80 golf professionals of the Philippines will be paired with top amateurs for the Ubix-Riviera National Pro-Am Championship Nov. 13-17 at Riviera's Langer Course in Silang, Cavite.

All teams, playing the one-ball, twosome format, will play 72 holes in the chase for the P.2-million prize from a total pot of P1.5 million staked by sportsman Bert Bravo of Ubix-Konica.

"Again, this is my humble way of giving something to our pros," said Bravo, who will also sponsor the 18-hole Celebrity Pro-Am on Nov. 13 to precede the four-day series.

Registration started yesterday at both the Riviera offices (046-414-2868) in Silang, Cavite, and the NGAP headquarters on Vito Cruz (tel. 525-69-87).

Entry fee per team is P4,000. Deadline of registration is on Nov. 8.

All applications by professionals will have to pass through the PGAP through its new president, Emil Afable. They will next be thoroughly screened by the organizing committee headed by Comm. Danny Pizarro, Riviera president.

"All selected teams will be allowed to practice on Nov. 12," said Pizarro. "We will make sure that this tournament will only feature the country's cream of the crop from our professional ranks as well as from our top amateurs."

The maximum number of entries will be 80 teams.

Langer beats Daly

PULHEIM, Germany — Germany's Bernhard Langer held off a late charge by John Daly on Sunday to take a one-stroke victory at the Linde German Masters.

The two-time Masters champion collected the biggest paycheck of his career of $ 414,000 in winning the $ 3.99 million event he runs with his older brother Erwin.

Langer fired 6-under-par 67 on his final day and finished at 22-under 266 to stave off Daly and Sweden's Fredrik Jacobson, who shared second at 267. AP

Wack Wack, Forest Hills advance

DEFENDING champion Wack Wack and a grieving Forest Hills squad turned back their respective opponents over the weekend to barge into the semifinals against the two eliminations topnotchers in the Federation League 2001.

Wack Wack got the big games needed from its frontliners to pull off a 4-0 win at home on Saturday and then lowered the broom on Riviera with a 2.5-1.5 when the battle transferred to Silang, Cavite the next day for the win.

Wack Wack now squares off with tournament favorite Manila Southwoods, the No. 1 qualifier, in another home-and-away series this coming weekend with a finals berth at stake.

Forest Hills also gave itself that chance after sweeping both its matches with Manila Golf.

Toms retains title

WILLIAMSBURG, Virginia — David Toms birdied four of his first seven holes Sunday, overcame a bogey in the middle and a late challenge by Kirk Triplett to shoot a 3-under-par 68 and defend his title at the Michelob championship by one shot.

The victory, clinched with a par on the 18th hole, was the PGA champion's third this year and the seventh of his career. It also was his fifth in seven attempts when he led heading into the final round. AP

PSC backs proposed House bill

BY MARC ANTHONY REYES

THE PHILIPPINE Sports Commission has expressed full support to the proposed House of Representatives bill giving at least two top PSC officials fixed terms in office.

The proposed bill is opposed to the present set-up where all of them are co-terminus with the president of the country.

Exploratory talks are now afoot between the House committee on youth and sports and PSC officials on the possibility of amending Republic Act 6847 which created the PSC, according to PSC commissioner William Ramirez.

The congressmen and PSC officials hatched the idea of amending the PSC charter in order to maintain continuity in the agency's sports development program, something that can't be done in the present system where officials leave en masse with the change of administration.

"Considering that we are under the Office of the President," said Ramirez, "maybe we can amend the law allowing the President to appoint all PSC officials, except for two commissioners who will have fixed terms."

Right now, the President has a hand in naming the PSC chair and the four commissioners, although President Macapagal-Arroyo opted to stick with holdovers from the Estrada administration, except for commissioner Cynthia Carrion.

"Most of the time, the change in administration disrupts whatever the past PSC officials have started," said Ramirez. "Moreover, having two commissioners holding over would give the PSC a sense of permanence."

Kenyan sets world mark

CHICAGO — Running the final 24 kilometers (15 miles) pretty much by herself, Catherine Ndereba of Kenya easily won the Chicago Marathon and broke the world mark set just a week ago.

Once at the finish line Sunday, she glanced up to see her time of 2 hours, 18 minutes, 47 seconds. She had broken the women's world best by nearly a minute.

Then the tears began to flow. AP

Dot is it

SPECTATOR

Al S. Mendoza

DOROTHY Joy Delasin won again not because she is really good. More than that, fellas.

Sure, she knows the game like the palm of her hand, thanks mainly to a father who quit his job to work on his daughter's game full time when he saw her potential. But more than her knowledge of the game as taught her by a dedicated father, Dot has a formula that more than augments her arsenal of winning shots; it makes her a surefire winner. And that is, that she takes golf as not merely a game but rather, a way of life. To Dot, she breathes golf.

To illustrate, Dot finally married the game in April when she swung free from her father, the very source of not only her strength but also of her inspiration. It was the most crucial decision she made since she took to golf 15 or so years ago.

I talked to Dot's father, Sonny, yesterday and he told me: "I didn't show my emotions when she bade goodbye to us. But after she had left, I wept by my lonesome."

I have seen Sonny both dote and scold his daughter. But each time Sonny, who caddied for Dot when Dot scored her first LPGA victory last year, gave his daughter the tongue-lashing, Dot never showed any resentment. She took each scolding as part of her training. What she is today, Dot owes it to Sonny. I saw—and continue to see—in Sonny the father of Venus and Serena Williams: A disciplinarian that is second to none.

Dot, 21, went to live in Albuquerque, Mexico, in April, leaving her family behind in San Francisco. But not after buying the dream house for her parents, two sisters and a brother. Dot, a Cinnabon protege, has also built a restaurant for her father from her winnings; she named it Divine Café—after her younger sister, Divine.

Dot's victory yesterday was her second for the season and third in her two years as a pro. But it proved to be the most important as the World Championship in Vallejo, California, involved the Top 20 lady golfers in the world.

"I'm so happy for her," Sonny told me, his voice cracking. "I thank the Lord for Dot's latest success."

Our athletes should learn a thing or two from Dot. This year, she did not only hire a full-time caddy to replace her father. She also took in a physical therapist, a physical conditioning trainer and a sports psychologist who graduated from the prestigious Stanford University.

So, unless someone special comes along armed with a Bonds-like performance, Dot should be it anew as this year's PSA Athlete of the Year.

Any objection?

Tennis deadline set

THE PHILIPPINE Tennis Association set the deadline of entry in the Ad In-Philta Classic 5 age group tennis tournament on Oct. 11.

The Group 2 netfest, slated Oct. 13-14 and 19-21 at the Rizal Memorial Tennis Center, is offering 120 points to the winners.

The country's top junior players are expected to join the two-weekend tournament.

Players may register with Loida Mallare at the Philta office (Tel. 525-64-34). Entry fee is P200.

Kafelnikov, Dokic win

MOSCOW — Top-seeded Yevgeny Kafelnikov of Russia beat Nicolas Kiefer of Germany 6-4, 7-5 on Sunday, winning his fifth consecutive Kremlin Cup title before a home crowd that included Boris Yeltsin, Russia's first president.

Fifth-seeded Jelena Dokic, an 18-year-old Yugoslav, beat eighth-seeded Elena Dementieva of Russia 6-3, 6-3 to win the women's title in the $ 2.185 million event. AP

Arroyo gives ₱3M to SEAG winners

BY JUNE NAVARRO

EDUARDO Buenavista, the most bemedalled Filipino athlete in the recent Southeast Asian Games, stands to receive P200,000 more apart from the cash windfall he already earned from the government.

This developed as President Arroyo released P3 million from her social fund last week as added cash incentive for the gold medal winners in the Kuala Lumpur sports conclave, according to Philippine Sports Commission chair Carlos Tuason.

The amount, which grants gold medal winners another P100,000 each, is apart from the bonuses already doled out by the PSC and the Kaibigan ni GMA Foundation in a testimonial dinner held Oct. 1.

Athletes earned P100,000 for each gold, P50,000 (silver) and P25,000 (bronze) from the PSC while the Kaibigan ni GMA Foundation bestowed P25,000, P12,500 and P6,500, respectively.

Tuason said the Presidential Management Staff approved the measure last week but announced it only yesterday.

He added the PSC is arranging another ceremony for the cash dole-out most likely to be held not later than next week.

The added P100,000 gold-medal cash bonanza was actually promised by President Arroyo during the athletes' send-off party in Malacañang on Aug. 30.

Bowling courses

CHILDREN can learn how to play bowling at an early age through the newest project of GameworX at the StriXe Bowling Center located at the 4th level of Festival Supermall, Filinvest Alabang, Muntinlupa City. StriXe offers courses specifically for kids, including good timing, six bowling drills, spare adjustment, strike adjustment and advanced bowling.

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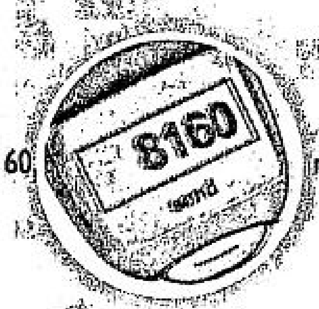

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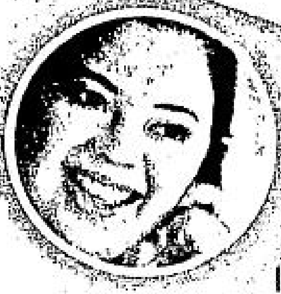

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- **On Target: Body count no longer important** A18
- **Press Club denounces World Trade 'bigotry'** A18

METRO

LOUIE C. CAMINO, Editor

1,000 cops secure 'terrorist targets'

Sites not named 'to avoid creating panic'

BY CHRISTIAN V. ESGUERRA

METRO Manila police yesterday went on high alert to guard against possible terrorist attacks following reports that the United States military has launched successive assaults on key targets in Afghanistan.

Around 1,000 uniformed policemen were deployed to secure "possible targets" of terrorism in Metro Manila, according to Chief Supt. Romulo Sales, National Capital Region deputy director for operations.

The Philippine National Police has beefed up security in embassies, particularly that of the United States, in anticipation of possible attacks by terrorist or criminal elements taking advantage of the situation, Sales said.

But he refused to reveal the likely targets of terrorist attacks "to avoid creating panic."

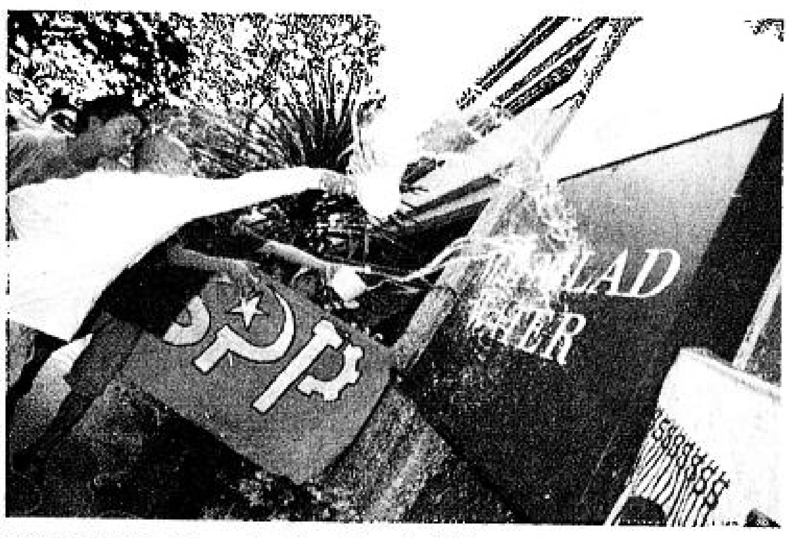
"We haven't received any report on terrorist attacks in Metro Manila so far, but we are ready," he said in a telephone interview yesterday. "We are focused on preventing these attacks."

Sales said Metro Manila policemen are equipped with sufficient guns and ammunition, but lack sophisticated devices to battle terrorism.

Aside from the deployment of more police officers, the PNP regional office also instructed the five district directors in Metro Manila to implement specific security strategies in their respective areas, according to Sales.

He said the district directors were given the go-signal to detail non-uniformed policemen in malls, train stations and government offices.

Mall owners themselves have taken the initiative in deterring terrorist attacks by hiring more security personnel and acquiring bomb-sniffing dogs.



SPLASHING dirty water at a Maynilad Water sign last week was the militants' show of protest against the price increase. VAL HANDUMON

'Water rate hike will force poor to tap illegal sources'

THE IMPENDING increase in water rates would force urban poor families to turn to illegal water sources, militants warned.

Kilusang Mayo Uno chair Sammy Malunes last week said the decision

WATER RATE/ A18

Travel papers' delay sparks travel agency shooting

BLOOD on the pavement marks the spot where the travel agent owner was shot. ERIK ARAZAS

BY JEROME ANING

FRUSTRATION over a travel agency's delay in the processing of the travel papers to China of his wife and their son apparently drove a man to rage.

Yesterday, Wang Li, alias Jackson Li, a native of Guangzhou in eastern China, shot dead Geraldine Sy, 34, a co-owner of the Central Travel Agency on Ongpin Street in Binondo.

Sy's husband Wilson, 39, tried to shield his wife from Wang's assault, and he took three bullets in the body.

A stray bullet grazed the agency's messenger, Roland Pasuca, 20, in the right shoulder.

Police said Sy died from a gunshot wound to the neck. She was pronounced dead on arrival at the Metropolitan General Hospital in Tondo, Manila.

Wang himself suffered injuries after employees of the travel agency and several passersby beat him up after the shooting.

Wang's wife Annie, a canteen operator and resident of Project 6 Quezon City, said her husband had paid the travel agency more than P500,000 since 1998 to process travel documents for her and their 10-year-old son.

Annie said Wang had wanted them to settle permanently in Guangzhou.

"He thinks the agency is milking him of his savings," Annie said. "The agency often asks us to submit (several documents) and do a lot of other things. But we still can't leave for China."

Wang arrived in Manila from China over the weekend and was enraged after he found out that the travel documents of his wife and son were not yet ready, said SPO1 Steve Casimiro of the Western Police District's homicide section.

Wang went to the travel agency about 10 a.m. yesterday to confront the Sys for allegedly duping him in their transaction for the travel documents, police said.

Witnesses told police that the two argued until Wang pulled a .9mm Walter PPK pistol from a plastic bag and began firing at the Sy couple.

Police said Wang tried to escape after the shooting. But an employee tripped him and clubbed him. Other employees and kibitzers from nearby offices mauled Wang, police said.

Members of the nearby Gandara police community precinct led by Insp. Cesar Victorino rescued Wang from the mob. Wang's wife said she did not know where her husband got the gun. But she said Wang had told her he would do something bad if the owners of their travel agency could not give him a satisfactory answer.

TRAVEL PAPERS/ A18

SUSPECT Wang Li. ERIK ARAZAS

337 lose jobs as shoe firm shuts down

BY AGNES DONATO

A TOTAL of 337 shoemakers became jobless when one of the biggest factories in Marikina City, the nation's shoe capital, closed down recently.

The laid-off employees of Filcon Manufacturing Corp., manufacturer of Converse All Star, Skechers and No Fear products, are now on the fourth day of their protest. The company filed for its closure on Sept. 5 and implemented it last Friday.

Filcon is reportedly owned by Ramon Go who operates several shoe and garment factories in the country.

Felipe Reogo, president of the FMC workers union, said he and his colleagues were protesting because management would not give them the compensation they had agreed upon in the collective bargaining agreement.

Reogo said that aside from the standard separation pay, the workers were supposed to receive a full 30-day salary for each year of service to the company. But management, he claimed, would not do its part of the bargain.

Instead, it reportedly offered to pay the workers only the equivalent of their 13-day pay for every year they worked for the company, along with a sack of rice and a Christmas package.

Linda Cremen, a union board member, also expressed disbelief

337 LOSE JOB/ A18

- **Rape-slay suspect had '99 rape case** A18
- **Negligent owners deserve lethal injection, firemen say** A18

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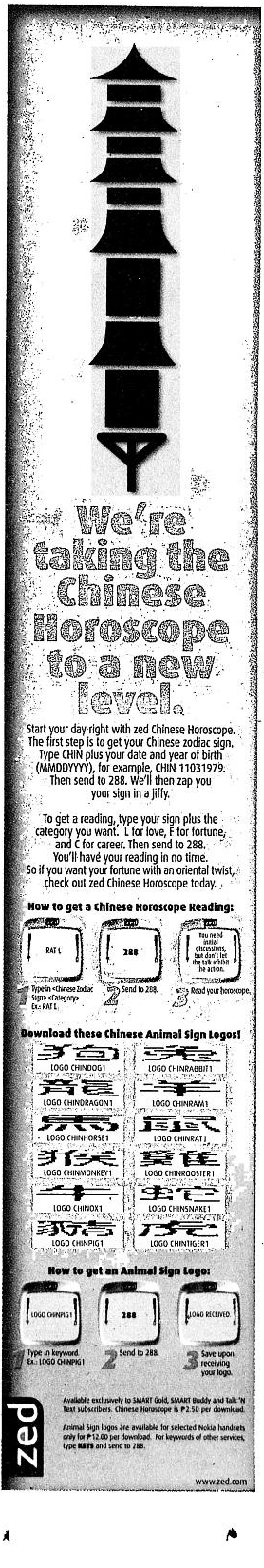

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Body count no longer important

ON TARGET

Ramon Tulfo

GONE are the days when the Senate was the forum for ventilating issues that affect the life of the nation. The House of Representatives, on the other hand, was the venue for exposing graft and corruption.

The Senate has become a forum for defending the honor of one of its members who is accused of heinous crimes like kidnapping for ransom, drug trafficking, smuggling, murder and money laundering.

Sen. Panfilo Lacson has turned the august halls of the Senate into a forum for getting back at his personal enemies.

Binaboy ni Ping Lacson *ang Senado*

* * *

Ping Lacson's advisers are amateurs in projecting his image into the public consciousness.

Instead of conveying to the people that he's an underdog who doesn't stand a chance against his well-entrenched enemies, Lacson only succeeds in making them hate him more.

When he made that speech accusing First Gentleman Mike Arroyo of dipping his fingers into the advertising budget of the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office (PCSO), he was like a wounded animal flailing about as its predator went for the jugular.

Lacson knows that his government career is finished.

* * *

Only gullible citizens would believe what Lacson is saying nowadays. Who would believe a guy who headed a "super" police agency, the Presidential Anti-Organized Crime Task Force (PAOCTF), whose members abducted and killed publicist Bubby Dacer in the most horrible way?

Who would believe a guy who has been exposed for his hypocrisy—going after kidnappers when he was the head of a kidnapping syndicate; going after drug traffickers when he was the No. 1 drug trafficker; going after murderers when he was a ruthless killer ?

Now, we know why he didn't receive money from gambling lords like his predecessors did, or why he didn't dip his fingers into the intelligence fund of the Philippine National Police (PNP) like the leaders before him did, or why he made a fuss about not playing golf during office hours.

It was to project an immaculately clean image because he was hiding something more despicable.

Now we know that when a person makes too strong a protestation of innocence, he cannot be trusted.

* * *

Military intelligence chief Col. Victor Corpus, Lacson's nemesis, did not make up those stories about his involvement in the illegal drug trade, kidnapping for ransom, smuggling and murders.

The witnesses—Mary Ong et al.—did not materialize from thin air. They came out and sought Corpus' help in exposing Lacson who used to be their boss.

Mary Ong, et al. were once Lacson's partners in crime and they're making a clean breast of it by exposing him.

Lacson knows it's only a matter of time before his fall.

* * *

The military's body count in its war against the Abu Sayyaf in Basilan—the number of enemies killed or wounded— is no longer given importance by the citizenry.

What the citizenry wants to know is whether the Abu Sayyaf is about to give up or whether its leaders have been killed or captured. The body count doesn't matter when only the Abu Sayyaf foot soldier is killed or captured.

The military has to come out with more significant reports for its exploits to be of any use to the citizenry.

* * *

Education Secretary Raul Roco's concern for the welfare of teachers is admirable. His predecessors did not have that kind of sympathy for the most overworked and least paid government workers.

But it's something else when the education secretary's concern spills over to trying to cover up for a teacher's offensive behavior against a pupil.

My staff at "Isumbong Mo kay Tulfo" has been trying to get Roco to act on a complaint against a teacher who shot her student with a pellet from a toy gun. The student nearly went blind because he was hit in the eye.

The complaint has been pending with the Department of Education's legal department for more than a year. It seems the legal department people are not acting on it.

So, my staff decided to bring the case to Roco. But his secretary always gives the excuse that's he's very busy or he's out of the office. When he did get to talk to the "Isumbong" staff, it was to say he was on his way to a meeting.

Is Roco politicking, trying not to draw the ire of teachers who are election watchers and vote counters, so everything will run smoothly in his favor in the 2004 presidential election?

SUSPECTS in the 10-year-old girl's rape and killing detained at the Marikina police station. DENNIS SABANGAN

Rape-slay suspect had '99 rape case

By Agnes Donato

THE PRINCIPAL suspect in the rape-slay of a 10-year-old girl in Marikina City had been previously charged with rape before a local court, police revealed yesterday.

But Melvin Arazola, 25, of Marikina Heights, Marikina City, was acquitted of the rape charge filed against him for allegedly molesting an 11-year-old girl in 1999, according to Insp. Ricardo Sto. Domingo Jr.

Arazola earlier confessed to having raped and killed Ma. Cristina Suyo, 10. He also implicated six other men, including his uncle, Cesar Arazola, 51, and cousins Noel and Rizaldy.

Also arrested were Arazola's uncle Claro and drinking buddies Ferdinand Miranda, 24, and Allan Gepiga.

Except for Arazola, all the suspects denied the charges.

Sto. Domingo, chief of the Marikina police criminal investigation division, said they would file today criminal charges against the suspects.

"We are still trying to determine the participation of the other suspects because we have yet to get their statements," Sto. Domingo said.

He also said the statements should be given in the presence of the suspects' legal counsel.

Likewise, police have already submitted to the crime laboratory in Camp Crame pieces of evidence recovered from Arazola's residence, including a bloodied pair of shorts and several bladed weapons.

"But we are still waiting for the results of the autopsy on the victim and the drug tests conducted on the suspects," Sto. Domingo said.

On Oct. 6, Marikina residents found Suyo's body in a black garbage bag dumped in a canal. The girl's body bore at least 14 stab wounds.

Hours later, police found the girl's bloodied clothes outside the gate of the Arazola house.

Firemen: Negligent owners deserve lethal injection

By Andrea Trinidad-Echavez

OWNERS of buildings and public utilities whose negligence causes fire deaths, and corrupt government officials, including those from the Bureau of Fire Protection and local governments whose neglect and corruption contribute to the tragedies, should be punished with lethal injection.

The United Fire Fighters of the Philippines said this over the weekend as it condemned the reportedly unethical conduct of police investigators who allegedly prodded victims of the Aug. 18 Quezon City Manor Hotel blaze to accept out-of-court settlement from the hotel owners.

The lawyer of the Manor fire victims supported the firemen's call, saying the legislature should amend the Penal Code to pave the way for stiffer penalties for man-made calamities.

Accepting the fact that owners of the ill-fated hotel might not even spend a day in jail, the Manor victims' lead counsel Roberto Barrales expressed hope that the tragedy would finally serve as an eye-opener and would lead to the amendment of penal laws.

"We have to face it, the maximum penalty for reckless imprudence is four years and even when (the respondents) get convicted, they can avail themselves of probation," Barrales told the Inquirer in a phone interview.

Such was the case of the owners of Ozone Disco who were convicted for the 1996 fire that hit the establishment and killed 169 people.

While the Quezon City Regional Trial Court found the Ozone owners guilty of reckless imprudence resulting in multiple homicide, they never spent a day in jail.

The Manor Hotel fire killed 81 people. Scores of others were injured.

While expressing frustration over the present penal laws, Barrales said the Manor tragedy should not be taken as just another tragedy.

"Tragedies involving public utilities such as hotels or buses should be defined and not treated as mere reckless imprudence," he said. "They have to be defined to impose stricter penalty that should even include death, depending on the extent of damage."

UFFP spokesperson Alvin Estrada agreed with Barrales, saying that unless the penal law is amended, utility owners and even government officials involved in giving licenses would not be careful.

"Negligence that results in the death of more than five people should be made a heinous crime to force people to follow the law," Estrada said.

He lamented that because of what happened in the Ozone case, where the owners were meted out a light penalty, establishment owners do not seriously implement safety measures.

"But if they know that they could get the death penalty because of their negligence, then I'm sure they would be more careful," Estrada maintained.

He said the Fire Code of the Philippines should also be amended to give it more teeth and to give the BFP the power to close down establishments found violating fire safety measures.

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Tuesday, October 9, 2001
27th Week in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Jon 3:1-10
Gospel: Lk 10:38-42

As Jesus and his disciples were on their way, he entered a village and a woman called Martha welcomed him to her house. She had a sister named Mary who sat down at the Lord's feet to listen to his words. Martha, meanwhile, was busy with all the serving and finally she said, "Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to do all the serving?"

But the Lord answered, "Martha, Martha, you worry and are troubled about many things, whereas only one thing is needed. Mary has chosen the better part, and it will not be taken away from her."

Commentary

Martha is busy about becoming a hospitable host serving Jesus with an elaborate meal. In contrast, Mary sits in a posture of listening, just wishing to be a perfect disciple. Martha protests for being left alone, but Jesus corrects her showing that there is only one dish necessary and Mary has chosen the best portion, which is hearing the word of Jesus. The "portion" is also used for a share in food. In the Bible, to hear is to obey. Hearing the word is the lasting gift which will not be taken away. Here in the gospel passage, hospitality is better understood in terms of listening to the words of the distinguished guest, Jesus, the great teacher.

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SUPREME COURT DOCTRINES

CRIMINAL LAW (AGGRAVATING CIRCUMSTANCE/CRIMES AGAINST PERSONS)/REMEDIAL LAW (CRIMINAL PROCEDURE)—**Treachery must be established as an element of a crime**—The trial court ruled that the killing was qualified by treachery. It failed to explain, however, the basis of said ruling. Indeed, the proven facts do not adequately establish the presence of this qualifying circumstance. Treachery is present when the means, methods or form of execution gives the person attacked no opportunity for self-defense or retaliation. It must be proven that such means, method or form of execution is deliberately and consciously adopted without danger to the accused. In this case, the prosecution proved that appellant fired at the back of the victim. It was not able to show, however, that appellant had deliberately adopted the attack, considering that it was executed during a commotion and as a result of it. Moreover, it could not be said that the attack was without risk to himself, because the victim was then in the company of three other persons, all of whom were alert and one was even armed. Well-settled is the rule that a qualifying circumstance must be established as clearly as the elements of a crime. In this case, treachery was not proven beyond reasonable doubt. Absent any other qualifying circumstance, appellant should therefore be convicted only of homicide, nor murder. [Citations omitted.] [Justice Panganiban, People v. Cabareño, G.R. No. 138645, January 18, 2001]

Digest by R.B. Vera

Press Club denounces World Trade 'bigotry'

THE NATIONAL Press Club (NPC) expressed profound dismay over what it described as the apparent discrimination against Filipinos by the management of the World Trade Center (WTC) in Pasay City.

NPC director Dennis Fetalino said in a statement that the WTC showed "bigotry against Filipinos and colonial servility when its management unilaterally cancelled an NPC-organized bazaar in favor of an international one."

The WTC had set the "Paskuhan sa Nobyembre" for Nov. 10, 2001, Fetalino said. The NPC agreed on the date and the two parties signed a contract.

But WTC management later claimed that the NPC bazaar "is in conflict with the concept" of the international fair organized by the International Bazaar Foundation, which the WTC had set for the same date. The NPC had no prior knowledge of the other event, the statement said.

The NPC director said WTC management insisted that it was not its policy to hold "conflicting shows on the same date."

He said "no less than President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo expressed support for the NPC's fund-raising activities by issuing Presidential Proclamation No. 85, authorizing the NPC to undertake a general membership and fund raising campaign from June 15 this year to Dec. 31, 2002 in celebration of the NPC's golden anniversary on Oct. 29 next year."

The NPC organized the bazaar also for several charities, including Tahanang Walang Hagdan, which would have participated in the event, he said.

He said the WTC informed organizers of the NPC bazaar that it would have to cancel the event.

"It is regrettable that in this day and age we Filipinos have to suffer commercial apartheid in our own country," Fetalino said.

SunStar case hearing set

THE NATIONAL Labor Relations Commission (NLRC) has set for Oct. 10 the hearing of the labor suit filed by former employees of the defunct SunStar Manila.

The case stemmed from the nonpayment of the salary for six months and the 13th month pay of 117 employees of SSM.

Charged were former press secretary Hector Villanueva as editor and chief and publisher; former transportation secretary Jesus Garcia, board chair; and Orlando Carvajal, general manager.

Veteran journalist Antonio Mortel, executive editor, represented some 50 employees in filing the case.

The employees are seeking some P3 million in compensation.

The paper closed on Feb. 23, 2001.

Villanueva and Garcia admitted that the paper owes its employees about P11.5 million.

The complainants hired the services of the Sandad-Abaya-Tan law firm to handle the case for them.

Mortel asked those who failed to join in the filing of the case to contact him at 913-6525 or Manuel Sanchez at 245-37-69.

Learning seminar at YMCA

WHAT is brain-compatible learning?

This and other questions will be answered in a seminar workshop sponsored by the Center for Learning and Teaching Styles dubbed "Principles, Applications and Strategies for Brain-Compatible Learning" on Oct. 15-16 at the YMCA International Hostel at the back of SM Manila and Manila City Hall.

The two-day seminar will discuss in non-technical terms brain physiology and biology, the role of emotions in learning, energizers and sponges, memory and recall, nutrition and the brain, and others.

Professors Henry Tenedero and Albert Saldajeno will conduct the seminar. Tenedero is a certified learning styles trainer, a distinction given to only 51 individuals internationally to date. Saldajeno is the director of the Tanghalang Henyo Pedagogical Theater Arts (THETA).

Call CLTS at 374-4967 (Vir Macaspac) or 936-6790 (Ruben Gatchalian).

337 lose jobs . . .

(From page A17)

that huge financial losses had caused the company to close down. She said management was only trying to evade its responsibilities to its employees.

She said the CBA compelled management to give the workers a salary increase last September, which was the same month the company decided to close down the factory.

She noted that the FMC warehouse in Barangay Mambugan, Antipolo City was doing good business, triggering doubts among the workers about management's real motive in shutting down.

"Obviously, FMC could not have been experiencing losses because it has many outlets," Cremen argued.

She said many shoe companies in Marikina had already moved their factories to Antipolo City and towns in Rizal such as San Mateo, Rodriguez and Cainta to prevent having to pay "huge taxes" to the Marikina government.

Many small shoe manufacturers have also closed down since early last year reportedly due to the economic crisis.

Water rate hike . . .

(From page A17)

of the Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System to grant the petition of Maynilad Water for an increase of 4.21 centavos per cubic meter would only add to the burden of poor people, "especially workers whose demand for a wage increase has fallen on calloused ears."

"Instead of easing the peoples' lives by ensuring affordable and quality services to the poor, the government contributes to the impoverishment of thousands of consumers, especially workers and urban poor people who earn too little to even afford paying their water and electricity bills," Malunes said.

"Residents of urban poor communities are forced to turn to illegal water and electricity connections," he added.

Malunes said the KMU had warned years ago that the privatization of the MWSS and the liberalization of the water industry would not result in cheaper, accessible and quality-assured water supply for the public.

Malunes said the Lopez-owned Maynilad Water, which services Metro Manila's west zone, was not authorized to pass on to the consumers their increasing operational losses.

"If they want to recoup their losses, it should not be at the expense of the consumers," Malunes said. "With the impending increase in water rates, Maynilad will not only recover its losses but will be able to acquire more profits while the people bleed due to the expensive water rates."

In Antipolo City, residents on Sunday criticized Manila Water Company Inc. for its petition to increase its rates. They said the Ayala-owned utility, which services the east zone, has failed to fully serve its franchise area.

Ely Kasilag, spokesperson of the United Homeowners Association of Antipolo (A-Homes), said it had been almost seven years since Manila Water was awarded the right to supply water to the eastern part of Metro Manila, but it had yet to bring water to the homes of Antipolo residents.

"Manila Water is a utility company that has to deliver a basic service," Kasilag said. "It should do this first before it asks for a rate hike."

The MWSS earlier promised to grant tariff adjustments to Manila Water, just as it did to Maynilad Water.

Manila Water is asking for an increase of P1.06 per cubic meter.

"It has been almost seven years since the MWSS privatization," Kasilag said. "Still, not a single drop of water has flowed from our taps."

Kasilag earlier claimed Manila Water had asked P160,000 from each subdivision for the interconnection of its water service. But he added this did not mean water would flow in the households, as the service would be good only from the road line to the water meter by the subdivision gate.

Manila Water reportedly promised to do the interconnection work, but not before 2010.

Maynilad provides water to Pasay, Las Piñas, Malabon, Muntinlupa, Valenzuela, Navotas, Parañaque, parts of Taguig and Quezon City, and the Cavite towns of Bacoor, Kawit, Imus, Noveleta and Rosario and Cavite City.

Gerald G. Lacuarta, Agnes Donato

Travel papers' . . .

(From page A17)

Wang was brought to the homicide section office but he could not talk because of his injuries from the beating. Police had to carry him out on a stretcher for treatment at the Gat Andres Memorial Medical Center. He was later transferred to the Ospital ng Manila.

SPO1 Casimiro said Wang would be charged with murder and two counts of frustrated murder as soon as he recovers.

Getting to know Hollywood's newest stars

AUDIENCE demographics have it that the viewing public is getting younger each year, so Hollywood has been trotting out young stellar hopefuls in the hope that they can strike viewers' fancy. Let's meet some of them:

Michele Rodriguez scored a knockout in last year's sleeper hit, "Girlfight," in which she played a scrappy female pugilist with convincing credibility. Before her big movie break, Michele was a complete unknown who didn't even dream of show biz stardom when she was growing up in sweet anonymity in New Jersey.

On an impulse, however, she went to an open casting call for the film, and competed against 350 other starry-eyed aspirants. Incredibly, Michele clawed her way to the top and clinched the lead role of the two-fisted, angry **Diana Guzman**.

Her good showing in her very first film outing made Michele a hot, new property in Hollywood, and she was immediately snapped up by director **Rob Cohen** for "The Fast and the Furious," where she plays "a tough chick who races cars."

Next up for Michelle is a film based on the "Resident Evil" video game. And, in "3 a.m., " she is cast as a taxi driver opposite **Danny Glover** and **Pam Grier**.

For his part, **Vin Diesel** first gained entry into the movie world as a filmmaker. Before that, he worked as a bouncer in a club in Manhattan!

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

Diesel has had two movies screened at major filmfests. He produced, wrote, directed and starred in his debut short film, "Multi-Facial," which was shown at the Cannes film festival.

Luckily, ace director **Steven Spielberg** saw the film and tapped Diesel for a role in "Saving Private Ryan." He then went on to provide the voice of the robot in the animated feature film, "The Iron Giant" (1998).

Next, he played a psychopathic convict who escapes from prison in "Pitch Black," and a Wall Street broker in "Boiler Room." Diesel is only 33 years old, but he's already gained a reputation for being a versatile actor.

Reese Witherspoon has been around longer than our first two comers, but it's only in her latest film, "Legally Blonde," that she's gotten the huge following and great notices that make for major stardom these days.

And **Britanny Murphy** plays opposite *the* **Michael Douglas** in "Don't Say A Word," a suspense-thriller that topped the US box office last week. Murphy plays the attention-calling role of an uncooperative patient who is the key to Douglas' being able to save the life of his daughter.

With gifted newcomers like Rodriguez, Diesel, Witherspoon and Murphy, the US film industry is well-positioned to continue to appeal to young viewers with films characterized by fresh concepts and exciting, new stars.

Feedback

FROM **Gerardo B. Reynaldo** of San Miguel, Manila: "I disagree with the anti-piracy stand of the artists you mentioned in your Sept. 10 column. They are reacting to the proliferation of pirated compact discs only because they have a rich lifestyle to protect. If they were artists in the real sense of the word, they would be producing music for everybody to enjoy at a reasonable cost.

"Today, locally-produced or foreign CDs are being sold at P375 upwards; boxed sets cost more than P1,000. Amazon.com sells CDs at roughly the equivalent in US dollars. These are ridiculous prices that limit our ability to buy CDs, hence to enjoy the music.

(To be concluded)

Dingdong's dark, deep secrets

SOME friends of mine from Ateneo spotted **Dingdong Dantes** and his rumored girlfriend **Chinna Jocson** watching the Ateneo-DLSU ball game at the Big Dome. My friends said the couple seemed oblivious of onlookers. So, has Dingdong really changed court, from **Antoinette Taus** to Chinna? When will he come up with the official score? Has he committed an offensive foul against Antoinette's heart? Will he ever stop dribbling hearts? Check out Dingdong's website *www.geocities.com/iiidd* and proceed to the forum to find out about the matinee idol's deep dark secrets. A loyal reader told me to take note of the codename "Kristeta" (no relation to Kris A., though; sorry, Kris, if they used your name in vain), who is Dingdong's cousin. Now the mystery Miss in Dingdong's life is not so much of a puzzler anymore.

'MTB' in US

THE WHOLE cast of "MTB" is off to do a series of shows in the US. Probably they want to help ease the depressing effect of the recent US tragedy and to bring cheer to the Pinoys in the States. A couple of readers from California e-mailed me that the shampoo commercial of MTB regular **Vanessa del Bianco** is now being aired there. I'm sure Vanessa will be thrilled to see it when she gets there. But one possibility that's not so thrilling at all is that the US tour would give Vanessa and **John Estrada** more chance to be together. John's wife Janice would not have given up on him if she didn't have any solid proof of his trysts with Ms Vavavoom.

DOLLYWOOD

Dolly Anne Carvajal

Pray for Rio

I SPOKE to **Rio Diaz-Cojuangco**'s bosom friend **Rene Durian** and he told me that Rio's now in California for a routine check-up. "Rio's cancer cells have doubled," he said, "but the good thing is they're contained. Her doctors said she can come home anytime and can have chemotherapy here." I urge you all to say a little prayer for Rio's complete recovery. With all the chaos happening around the globe, this tired world needs "sunshine" women like Rio.

Happy birthday, Matet

MATET de Leon's debut at Café Kilimanjaro was a star-studded affair. The former child superstar was aglow as she and her boyfriend **Harold** hopped from one table to another. There was, however, a tinge of sadness in her eyes because she didn't get her biggest birthday wish. It would have been more than just a happy birthday for her if her *Mama* **Guy** came to the party. Perhaps, Nora didn't want their reunion to turn into another show biz circus so she opted not to attend. Matet need not worry. I'm sure the mother in Nora will prevail sooner or later and they can sit down and talk, away from all the prying eyes. Happy birthday to you, my *kinakapatid*. To me you'll always be a child-woman but now that you're 18, may you be more of a woman than a child.

Pretty season

THE "BER" months are very, very stressful times.

You've got to start making your Christmas list even if money is the least thing you have. As my early Christmas gift to my readers, to thank you all for the mood-elevating e-mail, I want to share with you the ultimate beauty secret of most stars such as **Sunshine Cruz**, **Beth Tamayo**, and **LJ Moreno**, to name just a few. Before you decorate your Christmas tree, why not spruce up yourself first by having a complete make-over? Text 0917-3375779 for more details. 'Tis the season to be pretty!

* * *

Congrats to **Becky de Leon** and **Alex Saludes** from Savannah Moon for winning 3rd place in the 5th National Dance Sport Championship Alaxan Cup. Kudos to my dear friend **Jean**, the wind beneath Alex's wings.

For feedback, e-mail wateringhole2000@yahoo.com

With family's help, Mark Anthony is well and working

(From page A22)

says. "She's a very strong woman. Probably she didn't want us to worry too much about her so she didn't tell us."

It has been one big blow after another for Mark, who also had to contend with depression. But he is secure in the knowledge that he has the support of his family.

"First, my dad lost in his political bid and now, my mom is sick," says the son of actor **Rudy Fernandez**, who ran for mayor of Quezon City. "I'm thankful that my family is always behind me. I draw strength from them. My dad, my stepdad (actor and Parañaque Mayor **Joey Marquez**) and my brothers—**Van Dolph**, **Renz** and **Rap-Rap**—have always been very supportive."

Mark has successfully overcome his drug problem and is now ready to return to the business that recognizes him as one of its best young actors. In fact, he has his hands full with film commitments. After starring with **Joyce Jimenez** in the action-drama flick "Biyaheng Langit," Mark will be seen in "Dos Ekis," a Viva Films production where he is paired for the first time with sexy actress **Rica Peralejo**.

Mark remembers Rica as his costar in the now-defunct ABS-CBN sitcom, "Palibhasa Lalake."

"But I never thought we would one day work in a film like this," he says.

He also plays the lead in the forthcoming Regal action vehicle "Jesus Rebolusyonaryo," with Singapore-based VJ **Donita Rose**.

McKnight writes for Malik

SINGER **Malik** is thrilled to have two original songs written by pop-R&B artist **Brian McKnight** in the newcomer's debut album from MCA Universal.

Malik was speechless when he met his idol during Brian's recent Manila visit to promote "Superhero."

"It's not every day that Brian McKnight writes a song for a new artist like me," he says. "I'm really so lucky."

Aside from Brian, Malik considers **Stevie Wonder**, Tower of Power and Usher as his musical influences.

Malik was a veteran in the band scene when he decided to go solo. He performed as one of the special guests during the "Froth of July" party at the NBC Tent at The Fort.

His voice and his impressive performance of a soulful version of **Carlos Santana**'s "Maria, Maria" easily make Malik a talent to watch out for. In that show, he also sang "Separate Lives" with **Anna Fegi** and "The Closer I Get To You" with **Bituin Escalante**.

TV for children

THE SOUTHEAST Asian Foundation for Children's TV has chosen Sen. **Loren Legarda Leviste** to be its spokesperson for children's TV. The foundation officially launched infomercials last month, advocating responsible and quality TV programming for children.

In the Senate, Loren authored the Children's Media Protection Act, which prescribes TV violence rating codes and prohibits violent programming during certain hours.

In line with her advocacy of the protection of children's rights, she delivered a speech, "Promoting TV for Our Children and Our Future," just days after the terrorists attacks on the United States, where TV united the world in shock, grief, outrage and determination.

Here are excerpts of Loren's speech:

"Events halfway around the world are emphasizing the power of TV not only to report events as they occur but also the power of TV to shape national and global agendas . . .

"A better world, this is what the Southeast Asian Foundation for Children's TV is striving to bring about . . .

"As a child of the electronic medium and as a daily witness to the impact of TV on our national life, I have a unique appreciation of the explosive potential of TV as an instrument of social and political power.

"Twice in our contemporary history, in 1986 and in January this year, TV was a potent instrument in the transformation of the Philippine political landscape . . .

"The impact of events as presented by TV is dramatic for two reasons. First, only TV can project the sense that there are clear moral choices. Second, there is a sense that the world is watching.

"We are willing and ready and able to make TV an instrument of child development, of education and of intelligent entertainment.

"I do not know if the whole country will be watching us. But I do know that parents throughout the land will be watching our efforts very closely—and we must not disappoint them."

MALIK. Solo singing career.

POWER PLANT
CINEMA
Rockwell Center, Makati City ☎ Tel. No: 8981440-41
DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND-EX

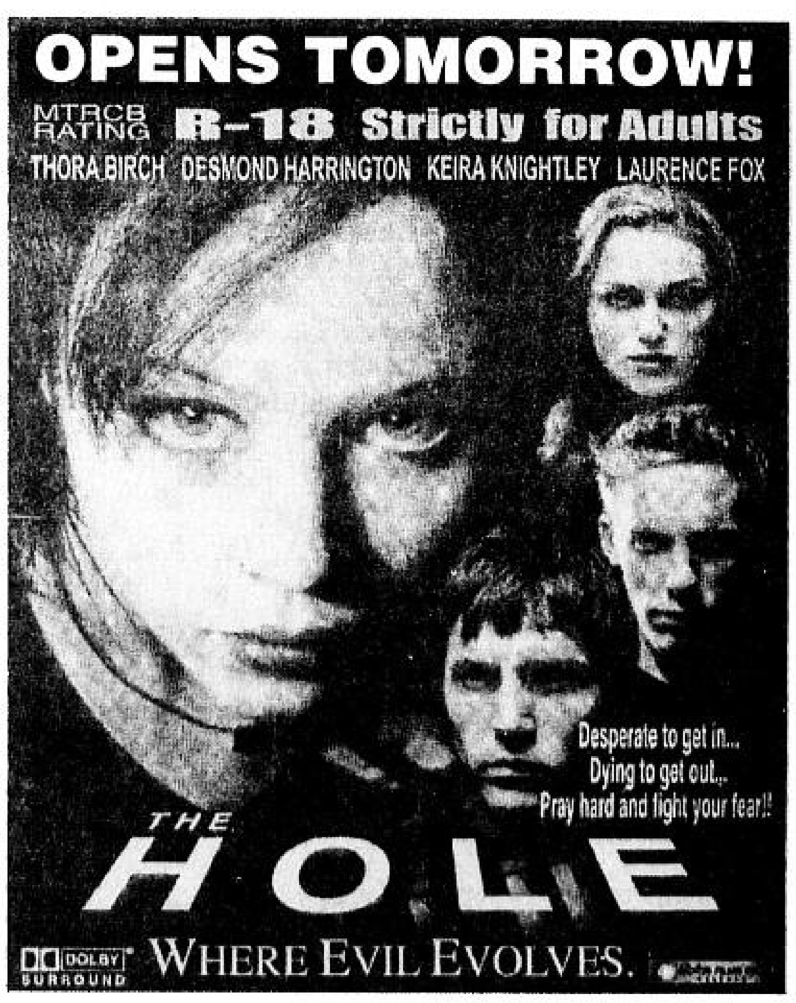
FAST & FURIOUS - R 18 12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00	PRINCESS DIARIES - GP 11:15, 1:45, 4:15, 6:45, 9:20	AMERICA'S SWEETHEARTS - P 13 12:10, 2:25, 4:40, 6:55, 9:10
HEARTBREAKERS - P 13 11:45, 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45	ORIGINAL SIN - R 18 11:15, 1:45, 4:15, 6:45, 9:20	AMERICA'S SWEETHEARTS - P 13 11:00, 1:10, 3:25, 5:40, 7:55, 10:10

Matinee, P80, Mon.-Fri.,11:00 am to 4:45 pm Screenings, Free Seating.

AYALA CINEMAS
ARTFILM - GLORIETTA 4
Art Film
NOW SHOWING
MTRCB RATING ▶ R Restricted
Strictly for ADULTS.
No one below 18 yrs. may be admitted.
THE EXCLUSIVE PHILIPPINE PREMIERE OF THE MOST STAR-STUDDED & EXCITING COMEDY FILM OF THE YEAR!
Warren BEATTY
Andie MACDOWELL
Josh HARTNETT
Charlton HESTON
Diane KEATON
Janna ELFMAN
Natassja KINSKI
Goldie HAWN
Porter Stoddard (Warren Beatty) is a well-known New York architect who is at a crossroads; a nexus where twists and turns lead to a myriad of misstops - some with his wife Ellie (Diane Keaton), others with long time friends Mona (Goldie Hawn) and her husband Griffin (Gary Shandling). Deciding which direction to take often leads to unexpected encounters with hilarious consequences in this comedy about life, love, friendship and the sometimes blistering nature of marital bliss.
TOWN & COUNTRY

OPENS TOMORROW!
MTRCB RATING ▶ R RESTRICTED
STRICTLY FOR ADULTS
No one below 18 yrs. may be admitted
Kasal ba o Sakal... Hanggang kailan ka tatagal?
SNOOKY SERNA
EDDIE GUTIERREZ - GLADYS REYES - JETHRO RAMIREZ
ROBIN DA ROSA - SAMANTHA LOPEZ - STELLA L. - PERLA BAUTISTA
DAISY REYES
TONTON GUTIERREZ RAYMOND BAGATSING
and
PATRICIA JAVIER
P.P. Vs. ADVINCULA
Criminal Case No. 001-04526
MARITAL RAPE
Executive Producer: RENATO HERRERA
RHGF Production Initial Presentation
Written and Directed by: NEAL "BUBOY" TAN
GLO-HERBAL Beauty Soap · FOOD SUPPLEMENTS · ALL AROUND CREAM

OPENS TOMORROW!
MTRCB RATING ▶ G General Patronage
ALL AGES ADMITTED
500 TIMES MORE POWERFUL THAN THE HIROSHIMA, NAGASAKI ATOMIC BOMB.
THE DEADLIEST VOLCANIC DISASTER EVER RECORDED IN U.S. HISTORY
Last Eruption
Albert Salmi
Ernest Pintoff
Released thru MEGA FILMS

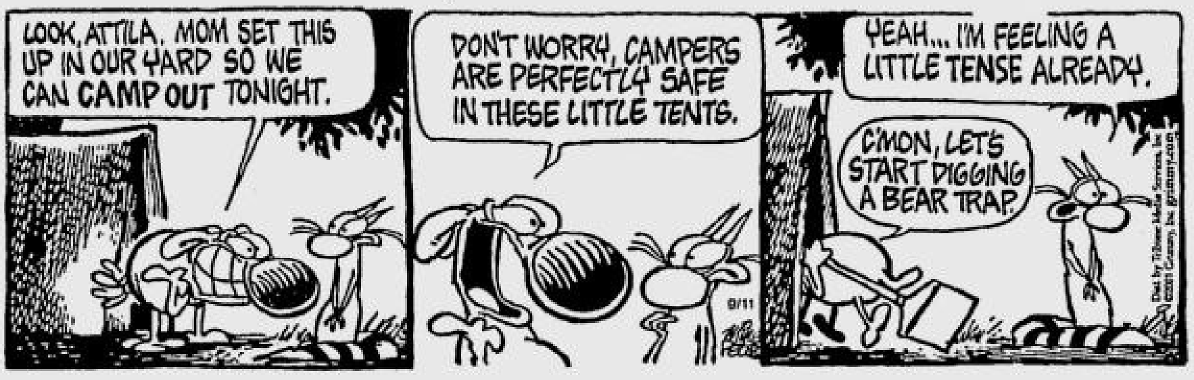


OPENS TOMORROW!
MTRCB RATING R-18 Strictly for Adults
THORA BIRCH DESMOND HARRINGTON KEIRA KNIGHTLEY LAURENCE FOX
Desperate to get in...
Dying to get out...
Pray hard and fight your fear!!
THE HOLE
DOLBY SURROUND
WHERE EVIL EVOLVES.

ComicRelief

MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM

BY MIKE PETERS


LOOK, ATTILA. MOM SET THIS UP IN OUR YARD SO WE CAN CAMP OUT TONIGHT.
DON'T WORRY, CAMPERS ARE PERFECTLY SAFE IN THESE LITTLE TENTS.
9/11
YEAH... I'M FEELING A LITTLE TENSE ALREADY.
C'MON, LET'S START DIGGING A BEAR TRAP.
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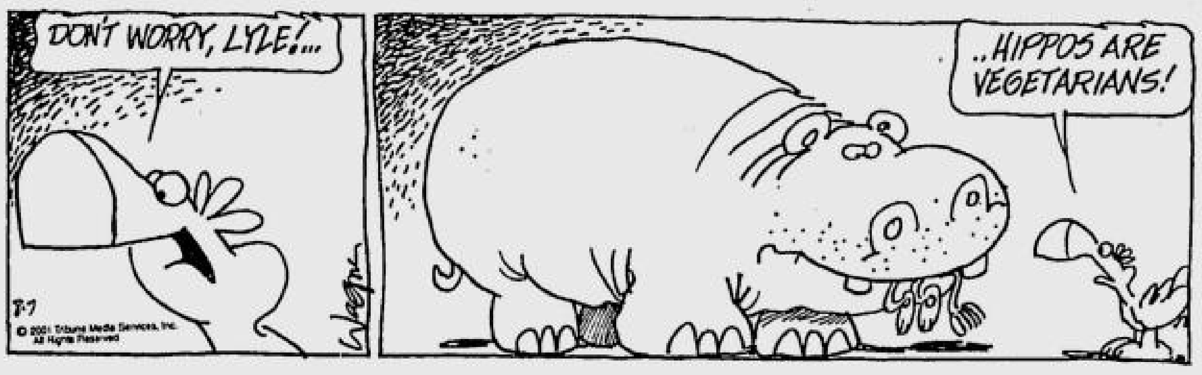
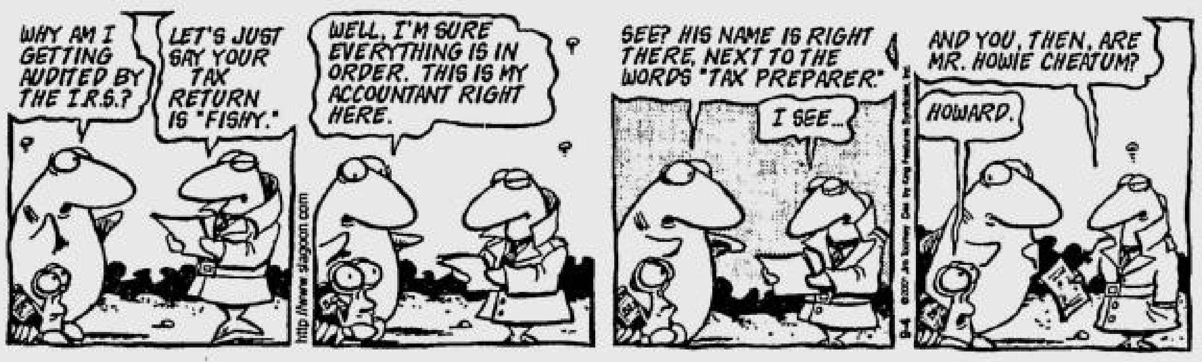
ANIMAL CRACKER

BY FRED WAGNER


DON'T WORRY, LYLE!...
8-7
© 2001 Tribune Media Services, Inc. All Rights Reserved
Wagner
..HIPPOS ARE VEGETARIANS!

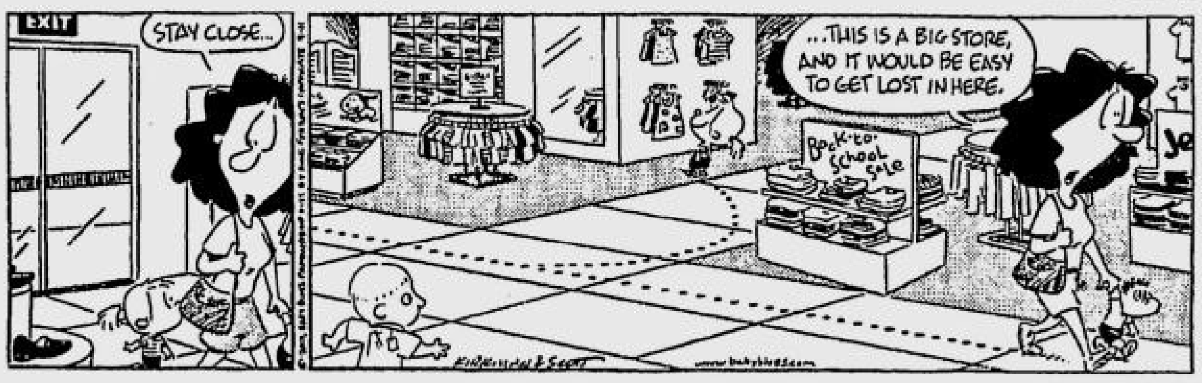
SHERMAN'S LAGOON

BY JIM TOOMEY


WHY AM I GETTING AUDITED BY THE I.R.S.?
LET'S JUST SAY YOUR TAX RETURN IS "FISHY."
http://www.slagoon.com
WELL, I'M SURE EVERYTHING IS IN ORDER. THIS IS MY ACCOUNTANT RIGHT HERE.
SEE? HIS NAME IS RIGHT THERE, NEXT TO THE WORDS "TAX PREPARER."
I SEE...
AND YOU, THEN, ARE MR. HOWIE CHEATUM?
HOWARD.

BABY BLUES

BY JERRY SCOTT


EXIT
STAY CLOSE...
...THIS IS A BIG STORE, AND IT WOULD BE EASY TO GET LOST IN HERE.
Back-to-School Sale
Kirkman & Scott
www.babyblues.com

HOROSCOPE

BY EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: John Lennon, Sean Lennon, Jackson Browne, Scott Bakula, Robert Wuhl

Happy Birthday: Focus on enjoyable projects that will produce the greatest rewards. Your ideas are innovative, but don't waste time daydreaming. Be honest about what you really want and make the right choices. This could be a stabilizing year. Your numbers: 15, 22, 24, 28, 33, 36

ARIES (March 21-April 19): You'll be unable to contain your anger if you discuss emotional issues with family members. Direct your energy into physical work rather than discord. Residential moves will be favorable.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Make plans for outings with relatives or good friends, which will provide stimulating conversation. Your knowledge and good sense will help relationships become stronger.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): You're apt to make a move or experience changes at home. Accept the inevitable. You can make money if you commit to a solid investment plan. Your hard work will pay off in advancement.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You will be overly emotional today if you don't make plans. Even though you don't like to drift too far from your usual area, you need a change of scene. Discover new places.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Start on all those endeavors you've been talking about for so long. Family members will be anxious if you make promises and don't deliver. Get them to pitch in.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Travel for business or pleasure. Much can be accomplished if you organize your time well. You will enjoy organizations that make a contribution to a cause you believe in.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Don't bother starting a dispute with anyone today. It won't be worth the time or effort. Financial speculation with family members or close friends should be put on the back burner. A loss might lead to a family feud.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Pursue outdoor activities or physical pursuits. You're a self-starter. You get things done and motivate others. Self-improvement will bring amazing results.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Don't put up with people who drain you. Use your courage and will power to eliminate destructive habits and situations.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): If you're feeling stressed out, cut your losses. Let go of whatever is causing grief. If you are uncertain about your feelings, spend time alone to re-evaluate your motives and needs.

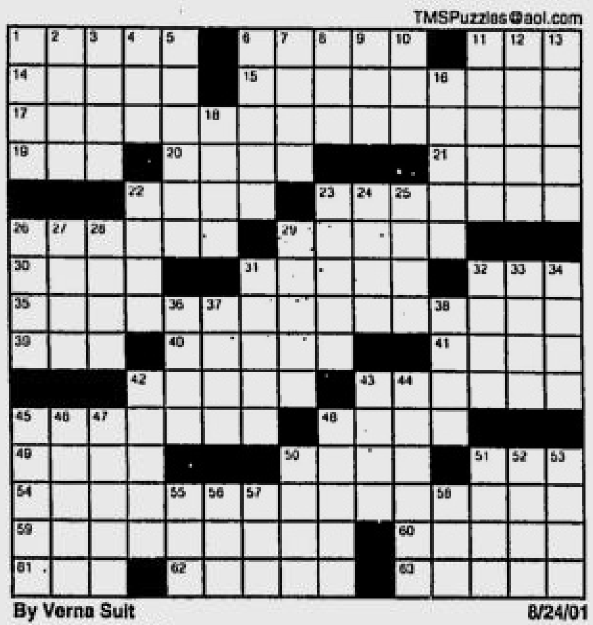
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): If you concentrate on your profession and on getting ahead financially, problems will smooth over. To tackle personal problems right now would lead to aggravation.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You enjoy entertaining and can host many events if you wish. You will attract attention and new love interests.

Birthday Baby: You are sensitive, creative and always into something. With your curious nature, you will never back down or change your mind once you make a decision. You will always do things carefully, but in a big way.

DAILY CROSSWORD

TMSPuzzles@aol.com



By Verna Suit
Silver Spring, MD

8/24/01

ACROSS
1 Increased
6 Pond scum
11 Ingested
14 Artillery salute
15 Gridiron ends
17 Three homes
19 Primary color
20 Flub
21 French thought
22 Catty comment?
23 Short-legged hounds
26 Watery impact
29 God of Islam
30 Pig or cast follower
31 "__ Irish Rose"
32 Pharmaceutical watchdog grp.
35 Three homes
39 Wool wearer?
40 Dance in triple time
41 Yesteryear
42 Peels
43 Proverbs preceder
45 First, second or third infielder
48 Rummies
49 Assert positively
50 Tropical root
51 Turn left!
54 Three homes
59 How a snake moves
60 Dust-up
61 __ mode
62 Web-footed critter
63 Pace

DOWN
1 Gorby's nation
2 __ de foie gras
3 Stated one's case
4 Gabor of "Green Acres"
5 Evades by cunning
6 Luminous
7 Bread unit
8 Rod
9 Pub choice
10 North Pole worker?
11 Battery terminal
12 Belief
13 __ Park, CO
16 South Bend eleven
18 "The House at __ Corner"
22 "The Magic Mountain" author
23 All-out attack
24 One of the Baldwins
25 Obi
26 Plat division
27 Projecting part
28 Seaborn on "West Wing"
29 Helps on a heist
31 Composer Harold
32 Sucker
33 Campus digs
34 Iowa State site
36 Did the butterfly
37 Skater Lipinski
38 Scandinavian rugs
42 Lost, in Tours
43 Minute opening
44 Rages
45 Model wood
46 Benefit
47 Cassia family plant
48 Butterfly with eyespots
50 Story
51 Patriot Nathan
52 Screenwriter James
53 Uninvited plant
55 In addition
56 Crude shelter
57 Winter hours in NYC
58 Vim

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

M	A	S	H	■	O	R	B	S	■	A	S	S	A	M
A	L	O	E	■	V	I	A	L	■	R	H	I	N	O
Y	O	U	A	R	E	T	H	E	■	C	A	R	G	O
A	U	S	T	E	R	E	■	W	E	A	K	E	S	T
■	■	■	E	P	A	■	■	S	O	N	A	N	T	S
P	U	T	D	O	W	N	S	■	N	E	B	■	■	■
A	P	O	■	R	E	A	C	T	S	■	L	I	N	K
R	O	O	S	T	■	M	O	O	■	S	E	R	I	O
A	N	N	E	■	T	E	U	T	O	N	■	I	N	A
■	■	■	T	A	R	■	R	O	B	I	N	S	O	N
A	B	L	A	T	E	D	■	■	S	D	I	■	■	■
G	O	O	D	B	Y	E	■	I	C	E	P	A	C	K
A	L	G	A	E	■	L	I	V	E	R	P	O	O	L
M	E	E	T	S	■	O	N	A	N	■	O	K	I	E
A	S	S	E	T	■	N	E	N	E	■	N	I	N	E

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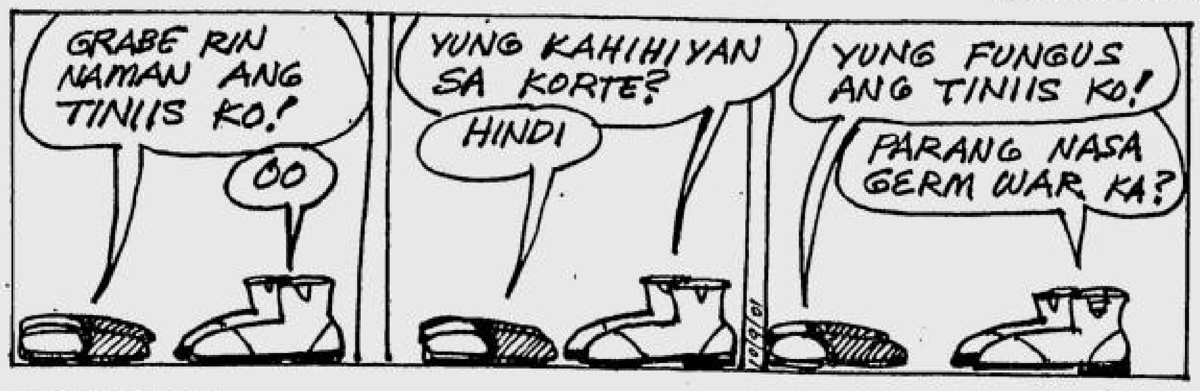
8/24/01

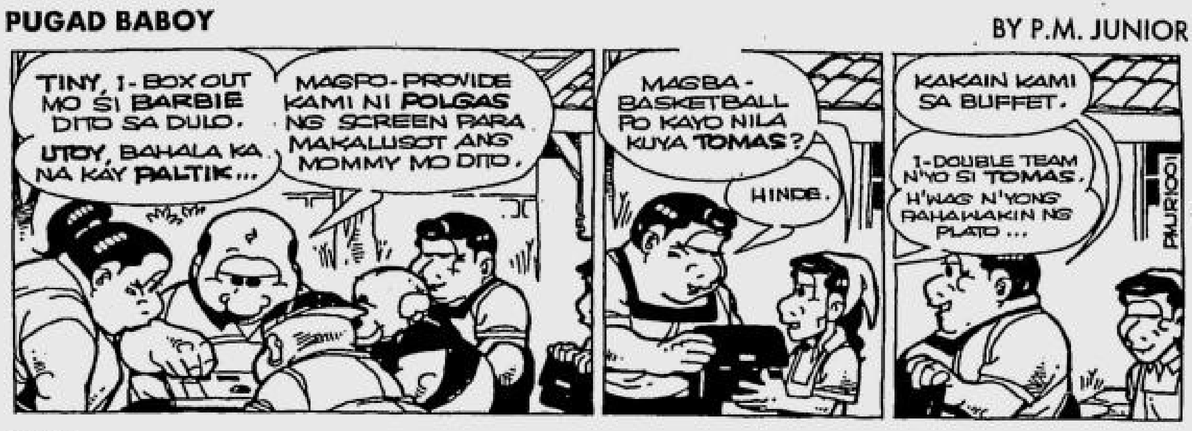
A. LIPIN

BY JESS ABRERA


GRABE RIN NAMAN ANG TINIIS KO!
OO
YUNG KAHIHIYAN SA KORTE?
HINDI
10/9/01
YUNG FUNGUS ANG TINIIS KO!
PARANG NASA GERM WAR KA?

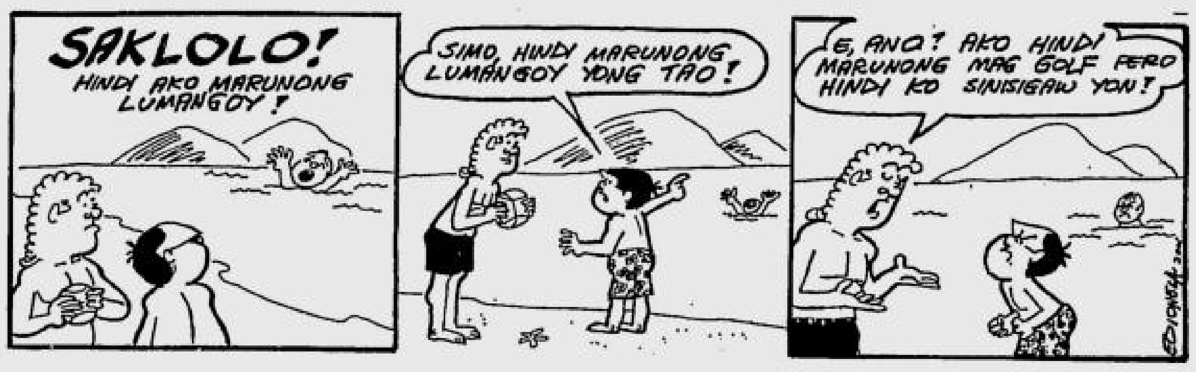
PUGAD BABOY

BY P.M. JUNIOR


TINY, I-BOX OUT MO SI BARBIE DITO SA DULO.
UTOY, BAHALA KA NA KAY PALTIK...
MAGPO-PROVIDE KAMI NI POLGAS NG SCREEN PARA MAKALUSOT ANG MOMMY MO DITO.
MAGBA-BASKETBALL PO KAYO NILA KUYA TOMAS?
HINDE.
KAKAIN KAMI SA BUFFET.
I-DOUBLE TEAM N'YO SI TOMAS. H'WAG N'YONG PAHAWAKIN NG PLATO...

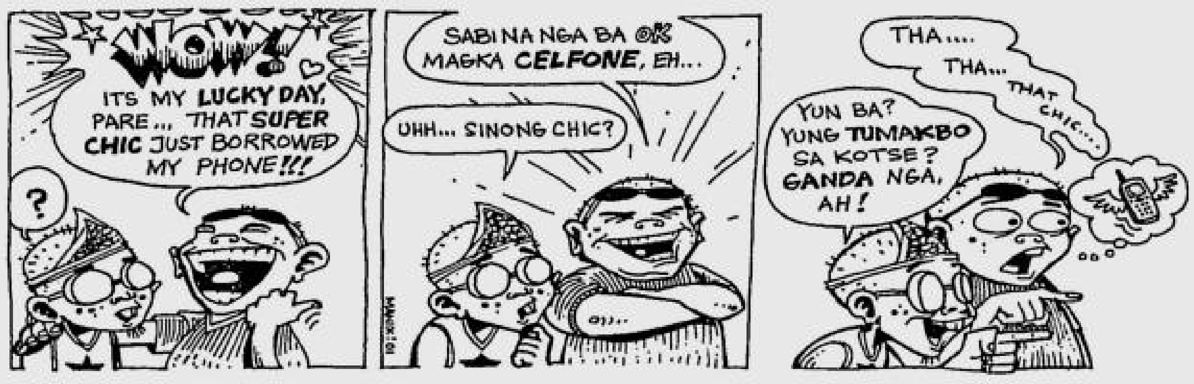
SIMO

BY EDGAR DIONELA


SAKLOLO! HINDI AKO MARUNONG LUMANGOY!
SIMO, HINDI MARUNONG LUMANGOY YONG TAO!
E, ANO? AKO HINDI MARUNONG MAG GOLF PERO HINDI KO SINISIGAW YON!
DIONELA

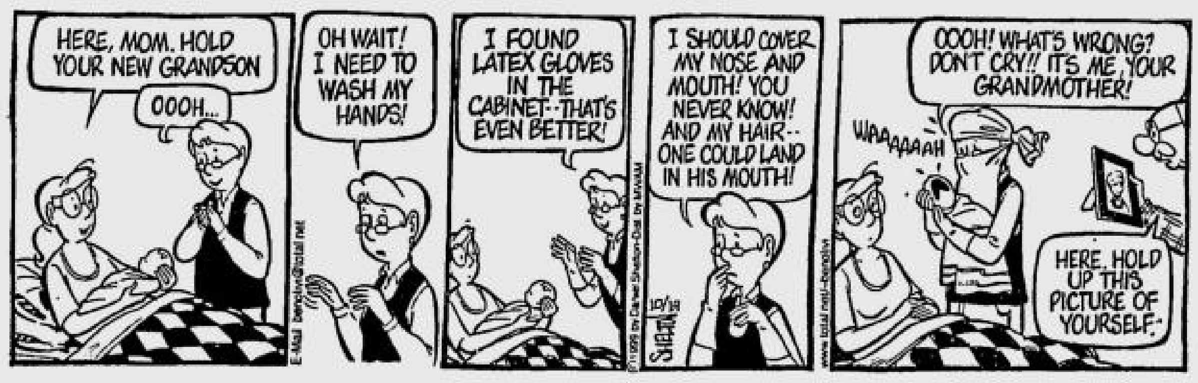
GARAPATA BLOOD

BY JOHN PAUL/BENG/MANIX


WOW!
ITS MY LUCKY DAY, PARE... THAT SUPER CHIC JUST BORROWED MY PHONE!!!
?
SABI NA NGA BA @%# MAGKA CELFONE, EH...
UHH... SINONG CHIC?
THA.... THA... THAT CHIC...
YUN BA? YUNG TUMAKBO SA KOTSE? GANDA NGA, AH!

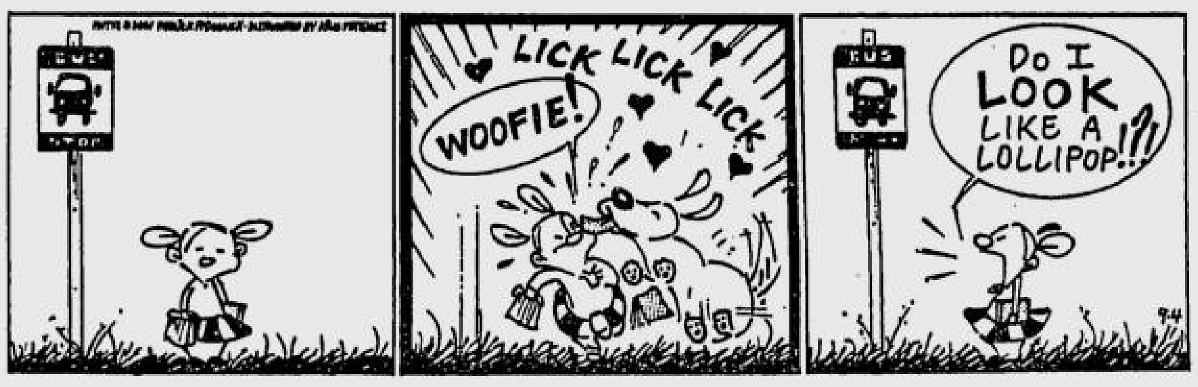
BEN

BY DANIEL SHELTON


HERE, MOM. HOLD YOUR NEW GRANDSON
OOOH...
OH WAIT! I NEED TO WASH MY HANDS!
I FOUND LATEX GLOVES IN THE CABINET--THAT'S EVEN BETTER!
I SHOULD COVER MY NOSE AND MOUTH! YOU NEVER KNOW! AND MY HAIR-- ONE COULD LAND IN HIS MOUTH!
SHELTON
OOOH! WHAT'S WRONG? DON'T CRY!! IT'S ME, YOUR GRANDMOTHER!
WAAAAAAH
HERE, HOLD UP THIS PICTURE OF YOURSELF.

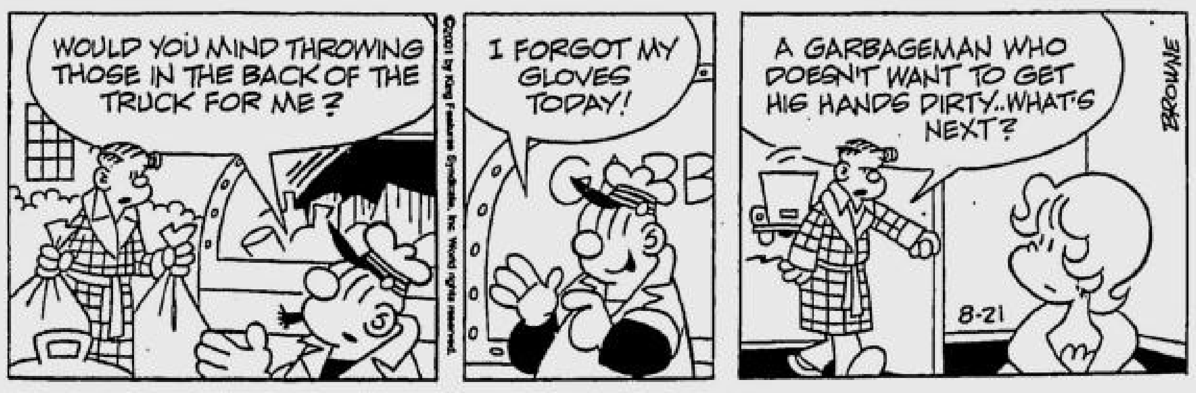
MUTTS

BY PATRICK McDONNELL


STOP
LICK LICK LICK
WOOFIE!
Do I LOOK LIKE A LOLLIPOP!?!
9-4

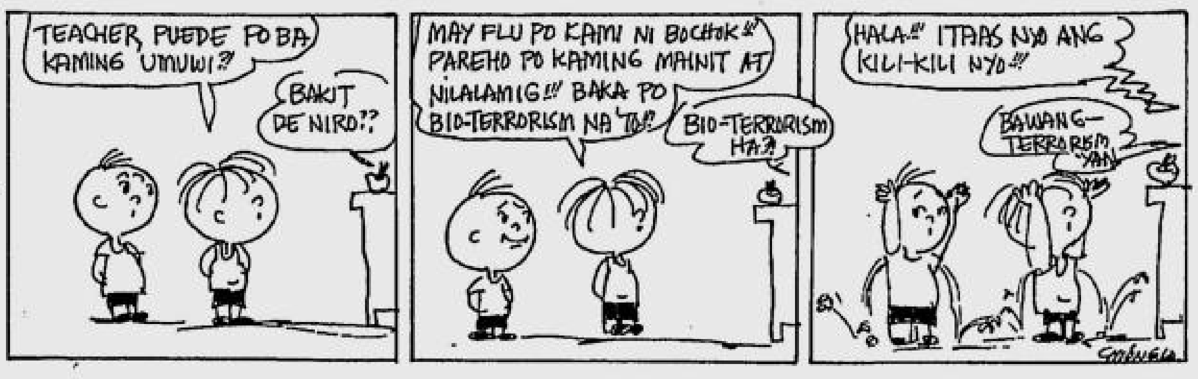
HI AND LOIS

BY BRIAN & GREG WALKER


WOULD YOU MIND THROWING THOSE IN THE BACK OF THE TRUCK FOR ME?
©2001 by King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved.
I FORGOT MY GLOVES TODAY!
A GARBAGEMAN WHO DOESN'T WANT TO GET HIS HANDS DIRTY..WHAT'S NEXT?
BROWNE
8-21

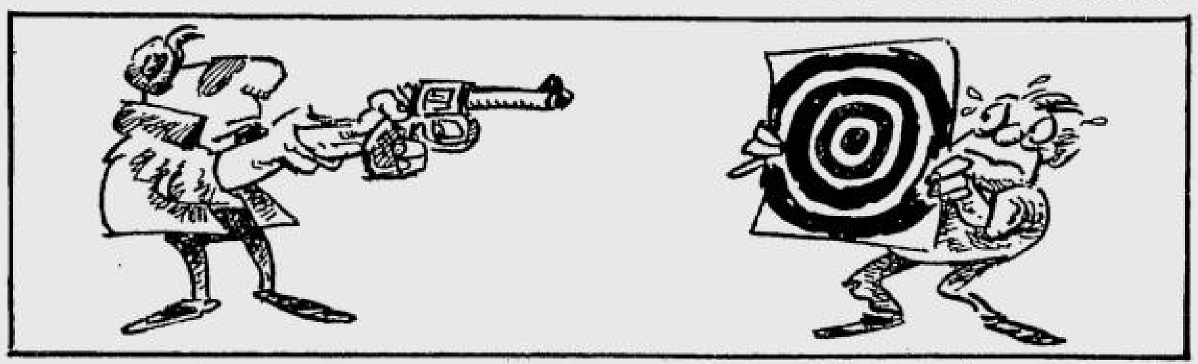
LOVEKNOTS

BY ELIZABETH CHIONGLO


TEACHER, PUEDE PO BA KAMING UMUWI?
BAKIT DE NIRO!?
MAY FLU PO KAMI NI BOCHOK!! PAREHO PO KAMING MAINIT AT NILALAMIG!! BAKA PO BIO-TERRORISM NA 'TO!!
BIO-TERRORISM HA?
HALA!! ITAAS NYO ANG KILI-KILI NYO!!
BAWANG-TERRORISM 'YAN

TULDOK

BY PAPU & TATUM MILAMBILING



SM CINEMA

SM Dial-A-Movie Tel. 633-9999

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SM CITY BACOOR
4173869

1	BASAGAN NG MUKHA
2	LA VIDA ROSA
3	PRINCESS DIARIES
4	AMERICA'S SWEETHEARTS
5	FAST & FURIOUS
6	SISID
7	ORIGINAL SIN
8	ST. FRANCIS VILLE

SM CENTERPOINT
7149522-7161405

1	LA VIDA ROSA
2	SISID
3	FAST & FURIOUS
4	ST. FRANCIS VILLE
5	AMERICA'S SWEETHEARTS
6	HEART BREAKERS
7	ORIGINAL SIN
8	KNIGHT'S TALE
9	PRINCESS DIARIES
10	ENEMY AT THE GATES

SM CITY FAIRVIEW
9350149

1	MR. NICE GUY
2	HEART BREAKER
3	ORIGINAL SIN
4	FAST & FURIOUS
5	AMERICA'S SWEETHEARTS
6	SISID
7	AMERICA'S SWEETHEARTS
8	PRINCESS DIARIES
9	LA VIDA ROSA
10	ST. FRANCIS VILLE
11	ENEMY AT THE GATES
12	BASAGAN NG MUKHA

SM CITY MANILA
5239240

1	FAST & FURIOUS
2	ST. FRANCIS VILLE
3	HEART BREAKR
4	AMERICA'S SWEETHEARTS
5	ORIGINAL SIN
6	KNIGHT'S TALE
7	MR. NICE GUY
8	SCARY MOVIE 2
9	LA VIDA ROSA
10	SISID
11	AMERICA'S SWEETHEARTS
12	PRINCESS DIARIES

SM MEGAMALL
6331901 • 6329401

1	ENEMY AT THE GATES
2	ORIGINAL SIN
3	AMERICA'S SWEETHEARTS
4	AMERICA'S SWEETHEARTS
5	ST. FRANCIS VILLE
6	HEART BREAKER
7	MR. NICE GUY
8	SISID
9	PRINCESS DIARIES
10	FAST & FURIOUS
11	LA VIDA ROSA
12	KNIGHT'S TALE

SM TUTUBAN
2514302

1	ST. FRANCIS VILLE
2	AMERICA'S SWEETHEARTS
3	LA VIDA ROSA
4	SISID

SM CITY NORTH EDSA
9295452

1	BASAGAN NG MUKHA
2	AMERICA'S SWEETHEARTS
3	SISID
4	LA VIDA ROSA
5	PRINCESS DIARIES
6	ST. FRANCIS VILLE
7	FAST & FURIOUS
8	AMERICA'S SWEETHEARTS
9	MR. NICE GUY
10	KNIGHT'S TALE
11	ORIGINAL SIN
12	HEART BREAKER

SM SOUTHMALL
8066888

1	ST. FRANCIS VILLE
2	FAST & FURIOUS
3	AMERICA'S SWEETHEARTS
4	LA VIDA ROSA
5	CLOSED
6	CLOSED
7	SISID
8	PRINCESS DIARIES
9	ORIGINAL SIN
10	BASAGAN NG MUKHA

SM GUADALUPE COMM'L
8828905

1	LA VIDA ROSA
2	SISID
3	ST. FRANCIS VILLE

SM CEBU
2313876

1	PRINCESS DIARIES
2	KNIGHT'S TALE
3	HEART BREAKER
4	ENEMY AT THE GATES
5	PUKYUTAN
6	LA VIDA ROSA
7	ORIGINAL SIN

SM ILOILO
3209422

1	TEENAGE SEDUCTION
2	CLOSED
3	KNIGHT'S TALE
4	SUGAR & SPICE
5	CROCODILE 2
6	PRINCESS DIARIES
7	CLOSED
8	LA VIDA ROSA

SM PAMPANGA
7126015

1	PRINCESS DIARIES
2	FAST & FURIOUS
3	HEART BREAKER
4	LA VIDA ROSA
5	ORIGINAL SIN
6	SISID

SM SUCAT
8294975

1	SISID
2	PRINCESS DIARIES
3	AMERICA'S SWEETHEARTS
4	LA VIDA ROSA

SM DAVAO

1
2
3
4
5
6

SOON TO OPEN
6 STATE-OF-THE-ART
MOVIE THEATERS

DIGITAL dts SOUND
DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND-EX

Movies are subject to change without prior notice

AYALA CINEMAS
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YOUR 24-HOUR LINK TO ALL AYALA CINEMAS 729 - 7777
reserve seats through www.sureseats.com

All Digital Sound

GLORIETTA 1 (formerly QUAD)

1	SISID
2	AMERICA'S SWEETHEARTS
3	ST. FRANCISVILLE
4	LA VIDA ROSA

GLORIETTA 4

1	PRINCESS DIARIES in DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND
2	FAST & FURIOUS in DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND
3	AMERICA'S SWEETHEARTS THX in DSD/SDDS/DTS DIGITAL SOUND
4	TOWN & COUNTRY (Exclusive Phil. Premiere) Art Film in DTS DIGITAL SOUND
5	ORIGINAL SIN in DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND
6	AMERICA'S SWEETHEARTS in DTS/SDDS DIGITAL SOUND
7	HEART BREAKERS in DTS DIGITAL SOUND

GREENBELT

1	FAST & FURIOUS in DOLBY STEREO DIGITAL SOUND
2	AMERICA'S SWEETHEARTS in SONY DYNAMIC DIGITAL SOUND
3	HEART BREAKERS in DOLBY STEREO DIGITAL SOUND
4	OGIE SINGS ALCASID OCT. 5 & 6 Onstage

ALABANG TOWN CENTER

1	AMERICA'S SWEETHEARTS THX in DSD/SDDS DIGITAL SOUND
2	FAST & FURIOUS in DSD DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND
3	PRINCESS DIARIES in DTS DIGITAL SOUND
4	SISID in DTS DIGITAL SOUND
5	HEART BREAKERS in DTS DIGITAL SOUND

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2 (SDDS)	AMERICA'S SWEETHEARTS
3 (DTS)	CATS AND DOG
4 GOLD (DTS)	FAST & FURIOUS
5 GOLD (DOLBY)	PRINCESS DIARIES
6 GOLD (SDDS)	ORIGINAL SIN
7 GOLD (DOLBY)	AMERICA'S SWEETHEARTS
8	SISID
9	ST. FRANCIS VILLE
10	LA VIDA ROSA

Pearl Plaza Cinemas
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2	RESERVE
3 (DTS)	MR. NICE GUY
4	RESERVE
5	BASAGAN NG MUKHA
6 (DTS)	SISID
Golden Pearl THX	RESERVE

Masagana CINEMA 2000
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2	HULI SA AKTO
3	SISID

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1	LA VIDA ROSA
2	SISID
3	HULI SA AKTO
4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	AMERICA'S SWEETHEARTS
5	BASAGAN NG MUKHA

METROPOLIS star
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1	SISID
2	BASAGAN NG MUKHA
3	MR. NICE GUY
4	LA VIDA ROSA
5	HULI SA AKTO
6	AMERICA'S SWEETHEARTS
7	RESERVE
8	RESERVE

PREMIERE CINEMA THX
(Makati City) tel 751.2011 to13

1	AMERICA'S SWEETHEARTS

Center Plaza Cinema
(Balanga, Bataan) tel (047) 237.7007

1	A.I.
2	MANO MANO 2

FCM FAIRVIEW CENTER MALL, INC.
tel 930.9515

1	RESERVE
2	BASAGAN NG MUKHA
3	SISID

Spring
(Libertad, Pasay City) tel 831.7864

1	SISID
A	HULI SA AKTO

Sunshine
(FTI, Taguig) tel 838.4301 loc. 3376

1	AMERICA'S SWEETHEARTS
2	SISID
3	MR. NICE GUY
4	RESERVE

GOTESCO CINEMA

City
(Manila) tel 734.8588

1 (DOLBY)	AMERICA'S SWEETHEARTS
2	RESERVE
3	RESERVE
4	SISID
5	HULI SA AKTO
6	LA VIDA ROSA
7 (DTS)	FAST & FURIOUS
8 (SDDS)	ST. FRANCIS VILLE
9 (DOLBY)	PRINCESS DIARIES

Caloocan
tel 362.3508

2	SISID

Grand Central
(Caloocan) tel 364.3781

1	LA VIDA ROSA
2	SISID
3	BASAGAN NG MUKHA
4 (SDDS)	FAST & FURIOUS
5	HULI SA AKTO
6 (DOLBY)	AMERICA'S SWEETHEARTS
7 (DTS)	ST. FRANCIS VILLE
8	RESERVE
9	RESERVE

Commonwealth
tel 951.0083

1 (DTS)	HULI SA AKTO
2	SISID
3	RESERVE
4	BASAGAN NG MUKHA
5 (SDDS)	AMERICA'S SWEETHEARTS
6	LA VIDA ROSA
7 (DOLBY)	FAST & FURIOUS
8	RESERVE

Ortigas
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1	HULI SA AKTO
2	SISID
3 (DTS)	RESERVE
4	LA VIDA ROSA
5 (SDDS)	AMERICA'S SWEETHEARTS

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1	SISID

Sampaguita
(Cubao) tel 911.7888

1	SISID

Dilson
(Manila) tel 734.7724

Dilson	ONE NIGHT AT MC COOLS
Lords	BASAGAN NG MUKHA
Jennet	

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Mandaluyong
tel 533.3851 / 533.3856

1	BASAGAN NG MUKHA
2	SISID
3	AMERICA'S SWEETHEARTS

Prima
(Pasig) tel 641.1215

3	SISID

Isetann Cinerama Complex Recto
SUPER CINERAMA
tel 733.4238

1 (DOLBY)	AMERICA'S SWEETHEARTS
2	SISID
3	HULI SA AKTO
4	LA VIDA ROSA
5	BASAGAN NG MUKHA

New Divisoria Mall
DIVISORIA CINEMA
tel 244.4619

1	BASAGAN NG MUKHA
2	SISID
3	HULI SA AKTO
4	RESERVE
5	RESERVE
6	MR. NICE GUY

Baclaran LRT
LRT CINEMA
tel 512.0115

1 (DOLBY)	RESERVE
2	BASAGAN NG MUKHA
3	SISID

Berma
tel 879.2029

1	SISID
2	BASAGAN NG MUKHA

CitiMall
(Parañaque) tel 820.7269

1	RESERVE
2	RESERVE
3	RESERVE
4	RESERVE

CINEMA 2000

Cinema 2000 Target Mall
(Sta. Rosa Laguna)
tel (049) 534.2185 / 534.2198

1	SISID
2	BASAGAN NG MUKHA
3 (DTS)	AMERICA'S SWEETHEARTS

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7383

1	MR. NICE GUY
2 (DTS)	SISID
3 (DOLBY)	AMERICA'S SWEETHEARTS
4	HEART BREAKER

Cinema 2000 Pavilion Mall
(Biñan) tel (049) 411.1146

1	SISID
2 (DOLBY)	HEART BREAKER
3 (DTS)	AMERICA'S SWEETHEARTS
4	MR. NICE GUY

Cinemagix
(Urdaneta) tel(075) 568.6771

1	SCREAM 2
2	BANYO QUEEN
3	SOON TO OPEN
4	SOON TO OPEN

Lianas Cinema
(Alabang) tel 850.1276

1 (SDDS)	SISID
2	LA VIDA ROSA
3	BASAGAN NG MUKHA
4 (DTS)	MR NICE GUY

Lianas MovieCity
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7202

1 (DOLBY)	AMERICA'S SWEETHEARTS
2	SISID
3 (DTS)	BASAGAN NG MUKHA
4	LA VIDA ROSA
5	BURKESK QUEEN

Olivarez Tri-Cinema
(Biñan) tel (049) 511.8883

1	AMERICA'S SWEETHEARTS
2	SISID
3	BASAGAN NG MUKHA

Olivarez Los Baños
tel (049) 536.5101

1	AMERICA'S SWEETHEARTS
2	SISID
3	BASAGAN NG MUKHA

Olivarez Tagaytay
tel (046) 413.0311

1	KNIGHT'S TALE
2	LA VIDA ROSA
3	TEENAGE SEDUCTION

Morales Cinema
(Biñan) tel (049) 511.9736

1	HEART BREAKER
2	BASAGAN NG MUKHA
3	SCREAM 2

Cabuyao
(Laguna City) tel (049) 531.4808

1 (DTS)	BASAGAN NG MUKHA
2 (DTS)	RESERVE

Fourstep
(Cavite) tel (046) 416.2385

1	BASAGAN NG MUKHA

Emperor
(Rosario Cavite) tel (046) 438.1657

1	RUSH HOUR 2
2	BASAGAN NG MUKHA
3	LA VIDA ROSA

Fiesta World Mall
(Lipa) tel (043) 981.0790

1	CRAZY BEAUTIFUL
2	ENEMY AT THE GATES
3	LA VIDA ROSA
4	SCARY MOVIE 2

Jade Cinema
(Angeles City) tel (045) 887.5001 to 03

1 (DOLBY EX)	PRINCESS DIARIES
2	HEART BREAKER
3	RUSH HOUR 2
4 (DTS EX)	FAST & FURIOUS

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3	HEART BREAKER
4	FAST & FURIOUS
5	SISID
6	ST. FRANCIS VILLE
7	ORIGINAL SIN
8	LA VIDA ROSA
9	ENEMY AT THE GATES
10	PRINCESS DIARIES

ERMITA
536-7809 TO 12

1	AMERICA'S SWEETHEARTS
2	FAST & FURIOUS
3	SISID
4	ST. FRANCIS VILLE
5	HEART BREAKER
6	ORIGINAL SIN
7	PRINCESS DIARIES

NOVALICHES
935-3229 TO 31

1	RESERVE
2	LA VIDA ROSA
3	SISID
4	FAST & FURIOUS
5	AMERICA'S SWEETHEARTS
6	BASAGAN NG MUKHA
7	ORIGINAL SIN
8	ST. FRANCIS VILLE

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(046) 471-8188

1	FAST & FURIOUS
2	BASAGAN NG MUKHA
3	AMERICA'S SWEETHEARTS
4	ST. FRANCIS VILLE
5	LA VIDA ROSA
6	SISID

BACOLOD
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1	CROCODILE 2
2	LA VIDA ROSA
3	A KNIGHT'S TALE
4	RUSH HOUR 2
5	ENEMY AT THE GATES
6	MANO MANO 2

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ALI MALL CINEPLEX-1	SISID
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-2	LA VIDA ROSA
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-3 (DDS)	PRINCESS DIARIES
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-4 (SDDS)	AMERICA'S SWEETHEARTS
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-5 (DTS)	FAST & FURIOUS
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-6 (DOLBY)	ORIGINAL SIN
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-7 (DOLBY)	ST. FRANCIS VILLE
FARMERS PLAZA-1 (DOLBY)	MR. NICE GUY
FARMERS PLAZA-2 (DOLBY)	BASAGAN NG MUKHA
FIESTA CARNIVAL	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
NEW FRONTIER	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
MANILA	
EASTERN	
MAXIM	CLOSED
MIRAMAR	TAILS OF EROTICA / NAG AAPOY NA LANGIT
ODEON	BASAGAN NG MUKHA
ODEON-2	MR. NICE GUY
ROBEN	SISID
TANDEM-1	SEX MEDUSA
TANDEM-2	SEX EDUCATION
TIMES	SWORDFISH / FINAL FANTASY
QUEZON CITY	
ACT-1	SENSUAL ISLAND
ACT-2	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
ACT-3	CLOSED
ACT-4	CLOSED
CORONET-2	ORIGINAL SIN
QUEZON-1	SISID
REMAR	SISID
REMAR-2	BASAGAN NG MUKHA
NOVA MALL - NOVALICHES CINEMA	
A	BASAGAN NG MUKHA
B	SISID
C	
MANDALUYONG CITY	
SHANGRI-LA PLAZA MALL	635-20-79 / 633-78-51 TO 70
CINEMA-1	FAST & FURIOUS
CINEMA-2	AMERICA'S SWEETHEARTS
CAINTA RIZAL	
STA. LUCIA EAST	(681-5401 TO 19)
CINEMA-1	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
CINEMA-2	MANO MANO 2
CINEMA-3	PUKYUTAN
CINEMA-4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	RUSH HOUR 2
CINEMA-5 (DTS)	PRINCESS DIARIES
CINEMA-6	A.I.
CINEMA-7	BURLESK QUEEN
CINEMA-8	BUKAS BABAHA NG DUGO
CINEMA-9 (DTS)	PRINCESS DIARIES
CINEMA-10 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	ENEMY AT THE GATES
CINEMA-11 (SDDS)	A KNIGHT'S TALE
CINEMA-12	SCARY MOVIE 2
CINEMA-14	ORIGINAL SIN
CINEMA-15	BANYO QUEEN
LORES	
CINEMA-2	CLOSED
CINEMA-3	CLOSED
POWER PLANT CINEMA	
CINEMA-1	THE FAST & THE FURIOUS
CINEMA-2	PRINCESS DIARIES
CINEMA-3	AMERICA'S SWEETHEARTS
CINEMA-4	HEART BREAKERS
CINEMA-5	ORIGINAL SIN
CINEMA-6	AMERICA'S SWEETHEARTS
UNIWIDE METROMALL	
(LAS PIÑAS)	
CINEMA-1	RESERVE
CINEMA-2	RESERVE
CINEMA-4	RESERVE
UNIWIDE COASTAL MALL	
(PARAÑAQUE)	
CINEMA-1	
CINEMA-2	
CINEMA-4	

Bands nights at the Prince

THE JUST-reopened Prince (formerly the Prince of Wales) in the basement of the Greenbelt New Plaza in Makati now features live music by bands and other popular entertainers.

A special show features jazz prince Richard Merk on Oct. 11, sponsored by Citilite 88.3.

Thursdays, The Freedom Band goes retro with favorites from the '60s to the '80s. Fridays are Latin and jazz nights featuring Marmalade, a female trio that plays Sergio Mendez, Santana, Astrud Gilberto, Jobim, Sade, and Debra Laws, among others.

Saturdays starting Oct. 13, the featured group is Snafu, a rock 'n' roll band composed mostly of expats well-known for their Beatles impersonation as well as covers of classic rock.

The performances start at 10 p.m.

The Prince is known for its "Drink All You Can" promo with SMB Pale or Draft for P160, and "Say when to stop pouring" with P50 per glass of their house pouring brands.

Reunion concert

BASIL Valdez and Ryan Cayabyab, the singer and the composer who gave such endearing OPM hits in the '70s and '80s, are reunited onstage this month when "Crossover Presents Basil Valdez and Ryan Cayabyab," Oct. 10, 8 p.m. at Captain's Bar of Mandarin Oriental.

Between the two, it is Basil who has been away from the limelight for a time since he has been busy with private corporate shows. The Captain's Bar concert produced by 105.1 Crossover is his first regular show after a brief hiatus.

According to his manager Wyngard Tracy, Basil is really looking forward to this project and is quite excited about it since this show will be a little different from his previous performances.

Basil will perform with a new breed of musicians headed by the series musical director Gerard Salonga, with Mel Villena on saxophone, Bobby Taylo on bass, Cesar Aguas on guitar and Roy Mercado on drums.

In terms of repertoire, it will also be something new for Basil since he will render choice crossover classics of David Benoit, Chicago, Burt Bacharach, Temptations and Dennis Lambert, plus his popular OPM hits.

Ryan Cayabyab couldn't be happier with this reunion. "I work with Basil very well so this will be just like old times," he says. "Performing onstage is something we both enjoy and once again, we love to share with people the songs that have touched their lives one way or the other."

Incidentally, Mr. C and Basil are now working together on a huge project called the San Miguel Foundation for the Performing Arts.

Sharing the Captain's Bar stage with the two are funnyman Jon Santos accompanied by Lorrie Ilustre, Da Capo and vocal group The Opera.

ENTERTAINMENT

LOUIE C. CAMINO, Editor

Tirso Cruz III, cast of Fil-Am movie earn good reviews in US

By RUBEN V. NEPALES

LOS ANGELES—A Filipino-American movie filmed here in the late 1990s, featuring a cast that includes Eddie Garcia, Tirso Cruz III and Gina Alajar, opened recently to good reviews from film critics.

"The Debut," directed by Gene Cajayon from a script he co-wrote with John Manal Castro, is showing in a few theaters in Southern California. It centers on a Filipino-American family whose relationships unravel before and during a daughter's debut party.

Being a small independent film, "The Debut" does not get a big simultaneous nationwide release that is accorded to major studio films. Instead, the film that singer Kuh Ledesma and husband Louie Quirino Gonzales (he has a small role in it) helped cast is being released slowly in major regions around the US.

The film credits the Philippines' GMA Network Films as one of the entities responsible for making the movie project of film school graduate Cajayon come true.

Good reviews greeted the film's release in the Los Angeles area last Friday. The most favorable notice came from no less than LA's major newspaper, Los Angeles Times, which printed a photo showing the young leads, Dante Basco and Bernadette Balagtas, with Eddie Garcia. Film critic Kevin Thomas, who wrote the review headlined "A 'Debut' of Humor and Tension," especially praised Basco and Cruz, who has the biggest role among the Manila-based actors.

Deserving

It is a well-deserved recognition for Cruz, whose performance we wrote about when we watched "The Debut" as the opening film of the Visual Communications Los Angeles Asian Pacific Film and Video festival last year. US-based comedienne Fe de los Reyes also appears in the movie.

The film's charismatic, *kayumanggi* (brown) main lead, Basco, has been acting since he was a child. His early credits include Robin Williams' "Captain Hook." The multi-talented actor, who hosts poetry readings, stars in another indie film, "Extreme Days," is also currently on a limited theatrical run.

Here are excerpts from the Los Angeles Times review: "Gene Cajayon's 'The Debut' takes us into the world of Filipino Americans to tell a universal coming-of-age story as illuminating as it is entertaining. At once funny and serious, it calls attention to an abundance of talent on both sides of the camera. Its title also applies to its makers, a terrific first film for Cajayon and his co-writer John Manal Castro."

"In Ben (Basco) and Roland (Cruz), and in Roland and his father Carlos (Eddie Garcia, a Filipino cinema legend with a half-century career) we discover eternal father-and-son conflicts intensified by the immigrant experience that often opens a cultural chasm between generations. Cajayon has inspired a screenful of engaging portrayals and performances of considerable complexity from Dante Basco and Tirso Cruz III.

'Excellent'

"Cruz's Roland elicits both exasperation and compassion for his closed-minded, heavy-handed treatment of his son. His Roland is a worn man in his 40s who's admirable in his sense of responsibility to his family and his devotion to his wife Gina (Gina Alajar), the family peacekeeper.

"Well-photographed by Hisham Abed, 'The Debut' is a winner all around.

"While popular and thoroughly accepted by his classmates, Ben is deeply ambivalent about his Filipino heritage—proud of it on the one hand, yet subtly embarrassed by it on the other.

"Cajayon underscores the problems many Filipinos face in an America that mistakes them for Chinese, Polynesian or any number of other ethnicities. At the same time, it deals with the way Filipino teens have taken up not just white cultural attitudes but those of the black hip-hop world as well.

"The cast is uniformly excellent; all involved seem keyed into the subtextual subtleties of a story that, while simple on the surface, is exceedingly rich underneath."

Charming cast

LA Weekly's Chuck Wilson wrote: "Ben Mercado (Dante Basco) is a Filipino-American high school senior who has kept his family's deeply traditional lifestyle a secret from his white buddies—until the night of his sister's 18th birthday party, when his two worlds collide.

"There's a formulaic inevitability to Ben's journey—of course he'll learn to embrace his heritage by night's end—yet director Gene Cajayon, with co-writer John Manal Castro and a charming cast, continually subverts expectations.

"Late in the film, Ben fights with a bully and a gun appears, but the director turns the cliché inside out as he subtly makes the point that the bully is just a scared kid who's been running his own version of assimilation.

"To break up a film that takes place almost entirely in a party hall, Cajayon separates the kids from their parents in an extended parking-lot sequence where the silly, perilous, ever-shifting alliances of teen life are etched with a knowing eye."

With family's help, Mark Anthony is well and working

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Leah Salterio

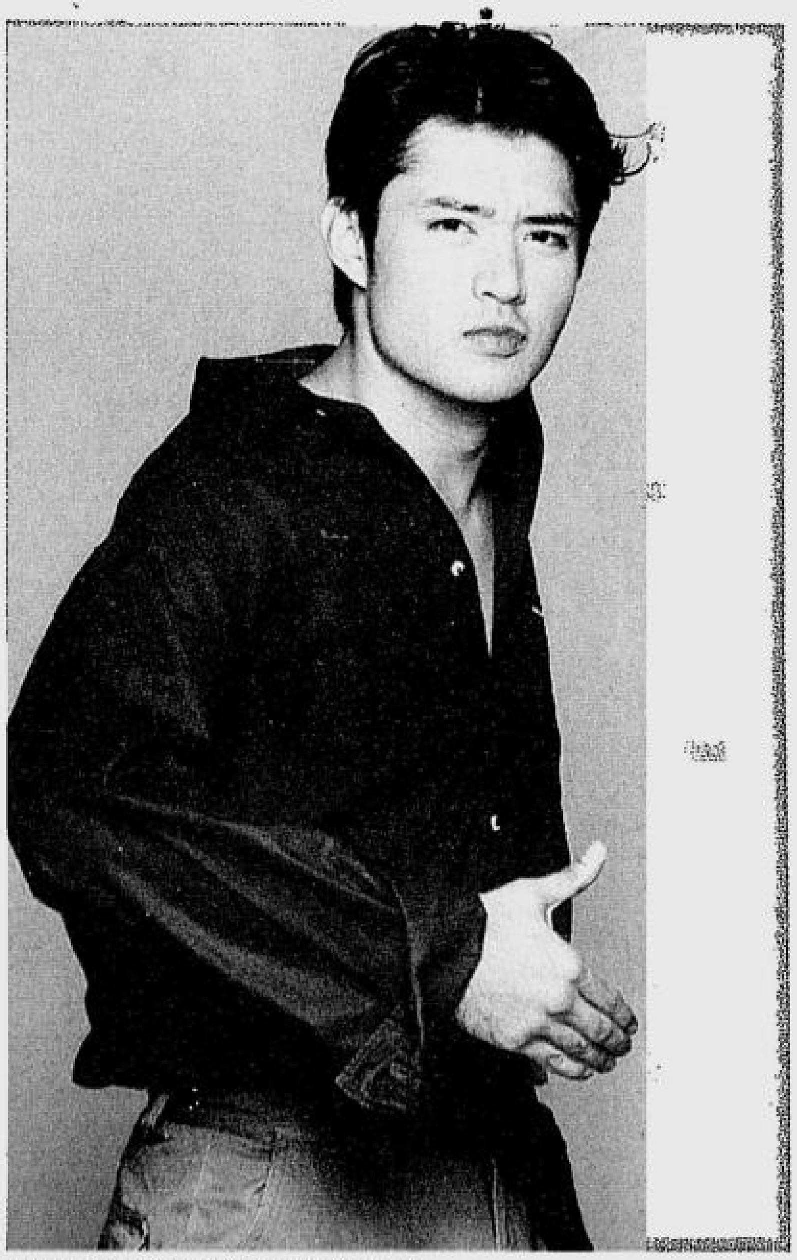
MARK Anthony Fernandez gets teary-eyed when the subject is his mom, **Alma Moreno**, who is suffering from multiple sclerosis.

Mark may have a rugged image, but the 23-year-old actor is a softie when it comes to his family and is not beyond crying even in front of media people.

He says his mom never told him about her real condition and he only learned about it in the newspapers.

"When she went to the States, I didn't know it was that serious," he

WITH/ A19



FERNANDEZ. Strength from his family.

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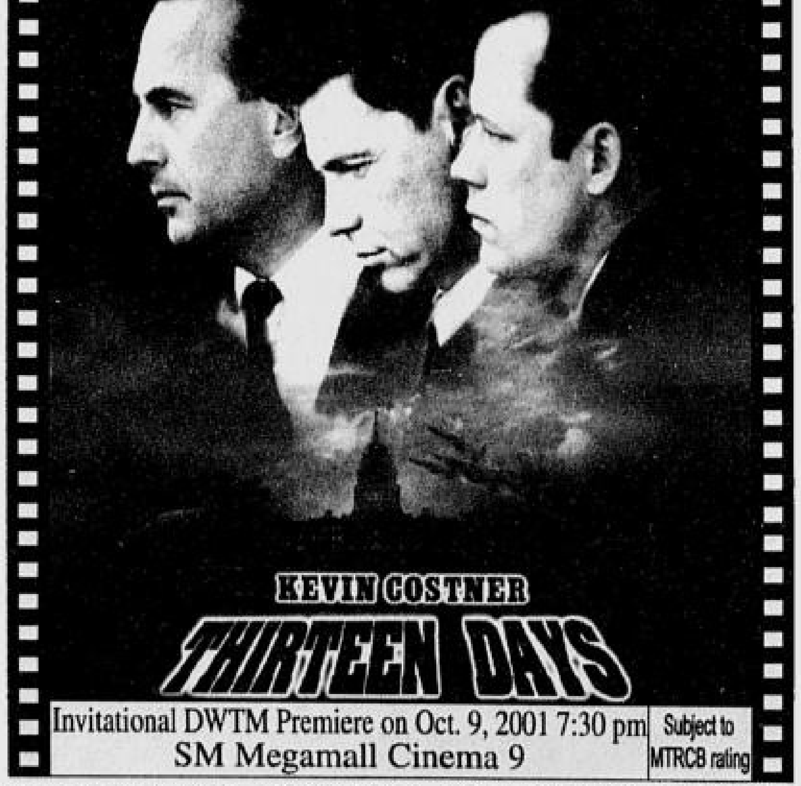
IT HAPPENED BEFORE. IT CAN HAPPEN AGAIN.



KEVIN COSTNER
THIRTEEN DAYS

Invitational DWTM Premiere on Oct. 9, 2001 7:30 pm
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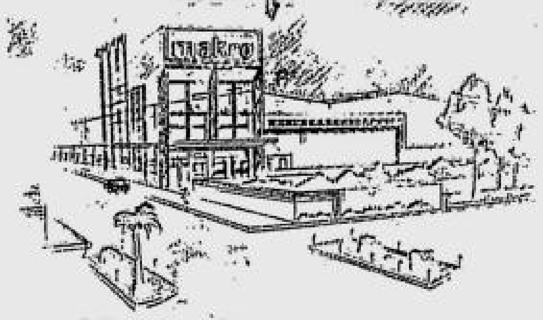
Subject to MTRCB rating

Regular showing starts Oct. 10 at the SM CINEMAS.

Marami nang narating ang makro



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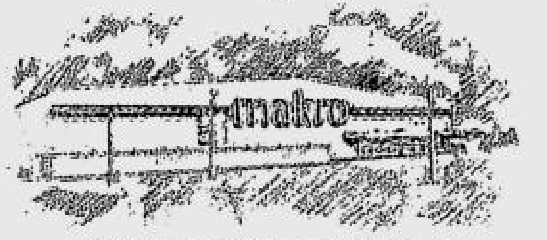

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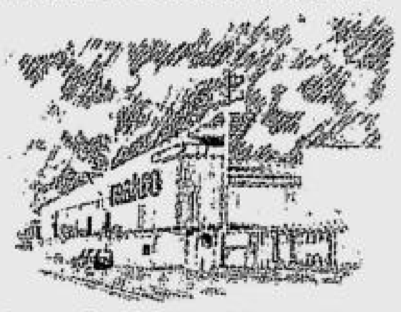

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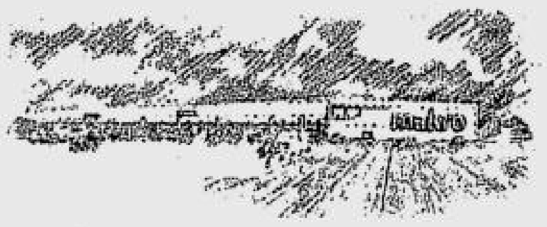

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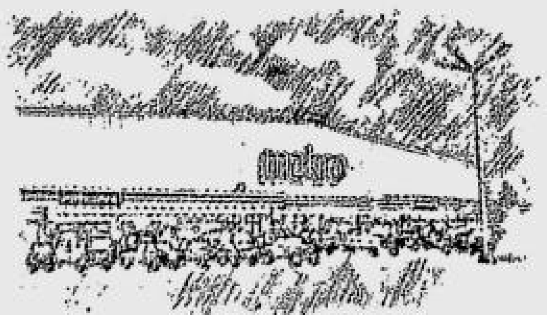

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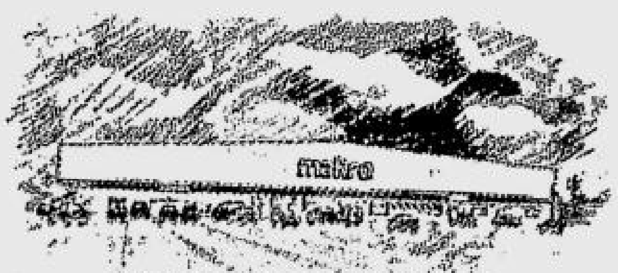
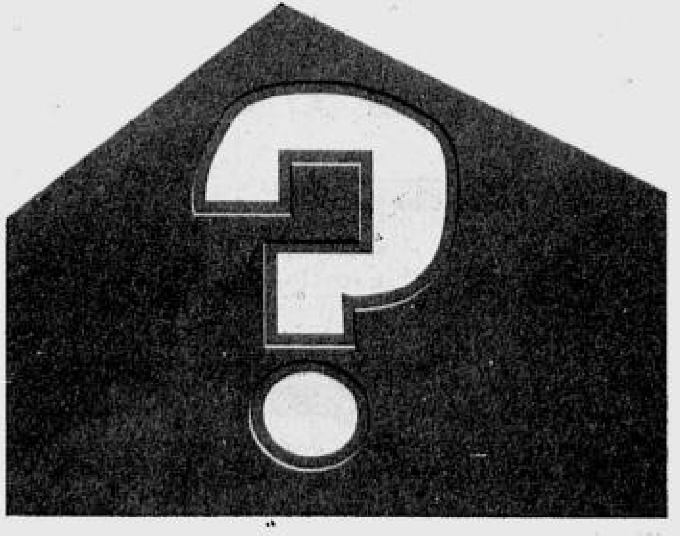


Makro Store 7 Davao



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Stocks slump on fresh war jitters

BY DORIS C. DUMLAO

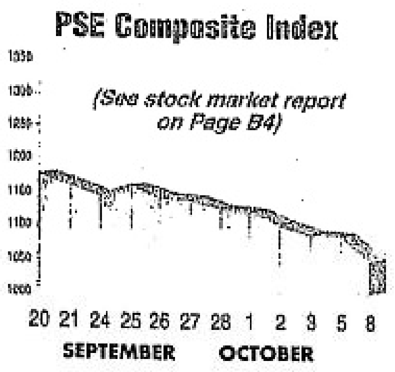
THE LOCAL stock market yesterday tumbled due to heightened jitters following the retaliatory attacks launched by the United States and its allies on Afghanistan.

Other Asian stocks also tumbled yesterday after the US-led military strikes, but losses were moderate because the action had been long expected, dealers said.

Nevertheless, regional markets would continue to be plagued by uncertainty over how long the action would continue, how far it would spread and the possibility of further terrorist attacks, they added. *(See story on Page B4)*

The Philippine Stock Exchange composite index lost 39.77 points or 3.7 percent to close at 1,048.67. It was the lowest close for the key index since Nov. 6, 1991, when it ended at 1,038.11.

Volume fell to 163 million shares but value rose to P3.56 billion compared with 250 million shares worth P535 million traded on Friday. Traders said liquidity was still tight in the market. Around P3 billion of the P3.56 billion in value turnover consisted of the block sale involving Globe Telecom, which fell by P30 to P590.



"We might be seeing more of these sharp declines if there are more military actions," said Fitzgerald Aclan of KGI Securities. "We're probably looking at 800-900."

"We broke 1,075 (points) so everybody is looking lower than that. We will be arguing that the market is undervalued but everybody's gut feeling is that when the strike starts, it's war," said James Lago of Westlink Global Equities.

"You'd rather be in fixed income, gold or anything you believe will hedge against uncertainties, which equities do not."

Dealers and local officials said the US strikes enhanced the danger of sympathetic attacks by groups linked to Osama bin Laden, the prime suspect in the terrorist attacks in the US last month.

Unlike in the early 1990s when most financial markets cheered the US attacks against Iraqi strongman Saddam Hussein following the invasion of Kuwait, the main-share Philippine Stock Exchange composite index slumped to its worst level since the unification of the Manila and Makati bourses into the PSE.

Yesterday's drop exceeded even the worst level of 1,082 hit by the Phisix on Sept. 11, 1998, during the tumultuous Estrada regime.

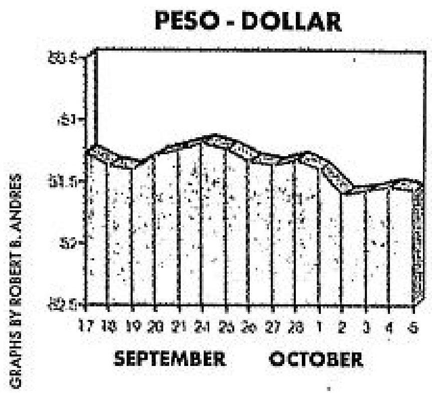
The fresh bombings in Mindanao also added jitters to the market, reminding investors that the country was hounded by domestic terrorism as well.

The most heavily sold down stocks were those in the property, finance and commercial-industrial sectors, as analysts expected an even worse global slowdown aris-

STOCKS/ B4

INDICATORS

CURRENCIES



Peso-Dollar Rate

P 51.60 = $1
As of 5 p.m.,
Oct. 8, 2001

¥ 120.52 = $1
As of 5 p.m.,
Oct. 5, 2001

GOLD:$292.25/293.25
per ounce Hong Kong,
Oct. 8, 2001

Shipping firm buys back shares

SHIPPING firm William, Gothong & Aboitiz Inc. has joined the bandwagon of listed companies buying back their shares from the sluggish stock market.

In a disclosure to the Philippine Stock Exchange yesterday, WGA spokesperson Susan Valdez said the company's board approved a resolution to repurchase up to 40 million shares at P1.50 each.

The news jacked up WGA's share price by 16 centavos to hit the P1.50 announced price for the share buyback. It was the second most actively traded stock in the market and was among the very few to buck the market's downtrend yesterday.

Companies usually resort to a share buyback program if they believe their shares are undervalued by the market. However, only listed companies with sufficient retained earnings are allowed by the PSE to repurchase their own shares.

Among the companies which have been buying back shares from the market or have announced intentions to do so were San Miguel Corp., Jollibee Foods Corp., JG Summit Holdings, Alaska Milk Corp., SM Prime Holdings Inc., ABS CBN Broadcasting Corp. and Centro Escolar University.

WGA earlier announced plans to convert a portion of its common shares into redeemable preferred shares in order to give stockholders more value for their shares since it would provide liquidity for their investments.

Gov't cuts growth targets

THE ECONOMIC team, in a presentation to legislators yesterday, finally brought down the government's growth targets by 0.3 percentage point to 3 percent for gross domestic product and 3.5 percent for gross national product.

A member of the inter-agency Development Budget Coordinating Council said the team has agreed in its meeting last Saturday to cut the growth targets this year in light of a huge contraction in export earnings.

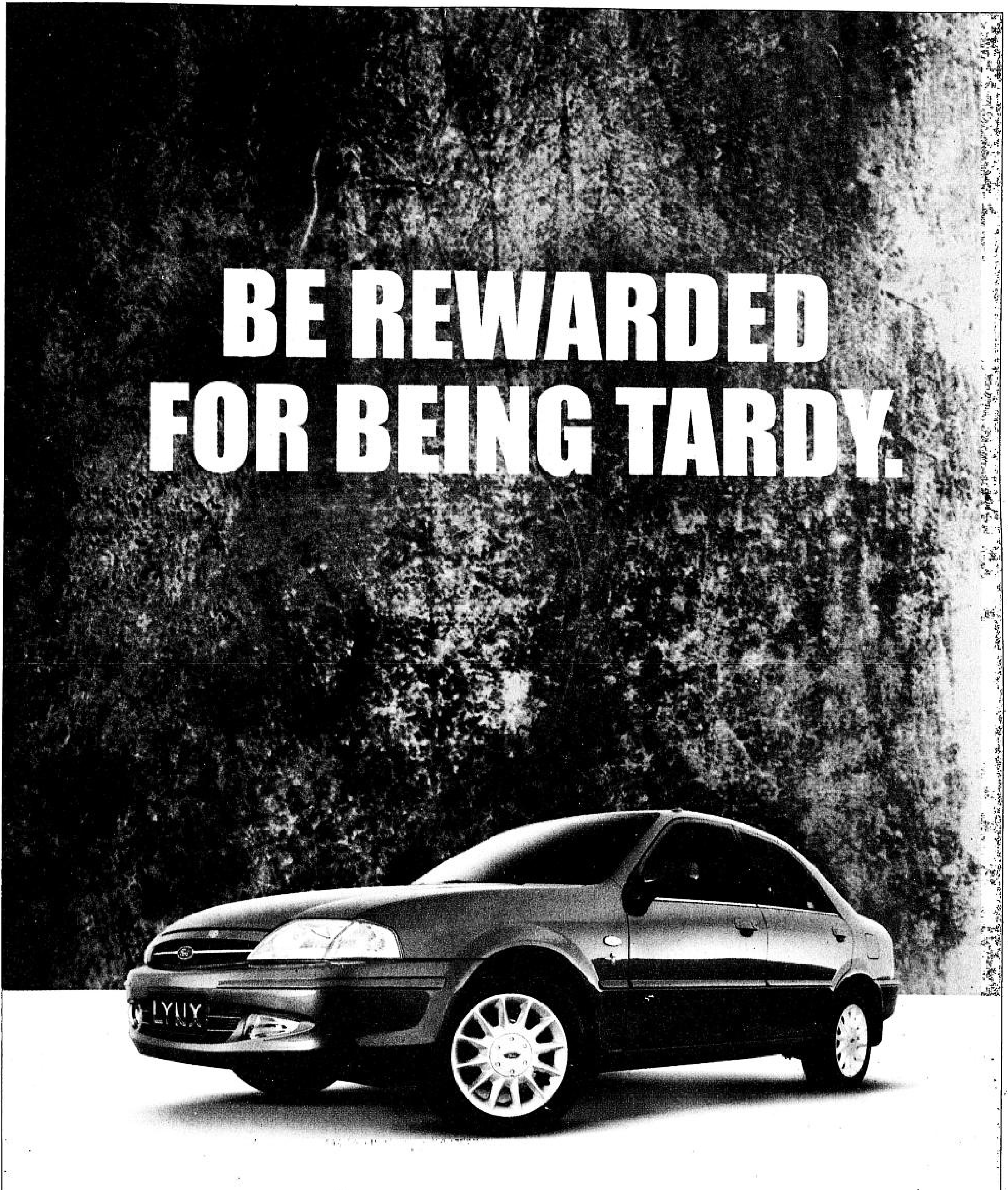
The DBCC member said the other economic targets such as the peso and treasury bill rates would be reviewed in subsequent meetings.

"The Congress wants to know what the Sept. 11 attacks would mean to the macroeconomy this year. The targets for next year are still being discussed," he said.

Last week, the DBCC was looking at cutting this year's growth targets by half-a-percentage point to only 2.8 percent for GDP and 3.3 percent for GNP from an earlier revised projection of 3.3 to 3.8 percent for GDP and 3.8 to 4.3 percent for GNP.

A more bullish outlook, according to the government source, had prevailed and the inter-agency team chose to downscale the target by only 0.3 percentage points. This was despite a 15-percent worst-case contraction in export receipts.

The recent revision in economic growth numbers is the second this year. The DBCC has already scaled down its GDP growth outlook from a higher range of 4.3 to 4.8 percent this year.



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Ghia AT	P765,000	P175,000		P20,500	P16,750

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Canlubang	700,000	-
Celebrity Sports	200,000	-
Eagleridge "A"	400,000	300,000
Eastridge	220,000	-
Fontana "D"	80,000	Pls. Call
Manila Polo	2,800,000	-
Manila Golf "C"	17,000,000	-
Manila Southwoods "A"	-	650,000
Manila Southwoods "B"	900,000	-
Orchard	230,000	160,000
Phil. Columbian	90,000	60,000
Puerto Azul	170,000	-
Quezon City Sports Club	220,000	-
Riviera Golf	220,000	-
Rockwell	500,000	-
Royale Tagaytay	100,000	-
Sherwoods	120,000	-
Tagaytay Country Club	370,000	-
Tagaytay Highlands Golf & CC	850,000	-
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BOOSTING FOREX RESERVES

BSP seeks $600M in loan

BY CLARISSA S. BATINO

THE BANGKO Sentral ng Pilipinas has started accepting offers to underwrite a long-term loan worth $400 million to $600 million within the year to prevent its dollar reserves from deteriorating below $14 billion.

BSP Governor Rafael Buenaventura said the BSP was trying to obtain a loan that would mature in four years or beyond. Part of the loan proceeds would be used to pay about $350 million in short-term obligations that the BSP obtained last month.

Sources said that at least four foreign investment banks have already submitted offers to handle the central bank borrowing. He named them as JP Morgan Chase, Citibank N.A., Salomon Smith Barney and UBS Warburg.

Buenaventura said the BSP would like to make sure that this loan would not bunch up with other sovereign obligations maturing in the next three and five years.

The pricing offers for the long-term loan, said the BSP governor, was better than the rates in the secondary market. "We would like to finalize this before end-November," he said.

Last month, the BSP said it raised about $350 million from a combination of short-term financing and the revaluation of the price of gold. As a result, the gross international reserves rose by $307 million to $14.542 billion as of end-September.

"We are being careful that our GIR will not fall below $14 billion pending the borrowings of the national government. The reserves have a psychological impact on the market and if, let's say, it falls to $13.8 billion, there will be a lot of speculations," said the central bank chief.

Buenaventura said the BSP borrowing would push through even if the national government would raise sufficient external funds to finance its deficit next year.

Already, the national government has finalized at least $850 million in fresh funds for next year and another $300 million is being lined up. The foreign borrowings of the government, alone, can already beef up the country's reserves but the BSP said it was not taking any chances.

"We will take a more cautious stance because there are too many unknowns. We would just like to build up our reserves and play it safe," said the governor.

Buenaventura said that the possibility of the Philippines falling into a balance-of-payment crisis was remote. As of June, the BOP deficit declined to $606 million from $797 million the previous month.

A deficit in external payments reflects the deterioration in export receipts and foreign exchange inflows in the form of portfolio and direct investments.

The foreign reserves level has been declining since the start of the year from about $15 billion by end 2000. BSP officials feared that the GIR might decline to the mid-$13 billion level if export receipts would continue to go down.

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Professor Ma. Nieves R. Confesor is the Program Director of the Negotiations Course. Most of her experiences locally and internationally have proven successfully her negotiations expertise. She was the Philippine Secretary for Labor and Employment. Professor Confesor has devoted many years of work in the management of overseas programs for migrant workers, the shaping of bilateral and multi-lateral agreements, regional relations and participation in the International Labor Organization (ILO). She also holds the distinction of being the first Filipino and Asian woman to serve as Chairperson of the ILO Governing Body from 1994 to 1995. Professor Confesor holds a Masters in Public Policy and Administration from Harvard University and an MBA degree from the Ateneo de Manila University.

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Ford's Asean project gets Thai BOI's support

BY GIL C. CABACUNGAN JR.

TOP officials of the Board of Investments led by Trade Undersecretary Gregory Domingo met with their Thai counterparts to push for the approval of the $500-million production sharing scheme between Ford Motor Co.'s Philippine and Thailand subsidiaries.

This was revealed by Trade Secretary Manuel Roxas II who said that Thailand's BOI was close to approving the project under the Asean Industrial Cooperation agreement.

Roxas said Domingo was able to convince BOI Thailand that the project would be beneficial to both countries. The BOI in the Philippines approved the project in September but its counterpart in Thailand held back its decision apparently due to stiff opposition by Thai assemblers.

But government sources said BOI Thailand was dilly-dallying on its decision to pressure the Philippines into opening up the sugar industry in the Asean Free Trade Area. The Philippines had earlier decided to exempt sugar from the zero to 5 percent maximum tariff under Afta.

Roxas said Thailand's BOI had already approved the Ford project in principle and that it was only ironing out the details.

Ford, through Ford Motor Co. Philippines Inc., is planning to assemble the Escape and Tribute sport utility vehicles and the Laser/Lynx/Mazda 323 sedans at its Sta. Rosa plant for export to Thailand.

Ford's Thailand subsidiary, Auto Alliance Co. Ltd. (where Ford has a 48-percent interest and Mazda Motors of Japan has 45 percent), will in turn ship Ranger pick-up trucks to the Philippines. Ford had planned to ship some of its Philippine output to Indonesia and bring in Volvo sedans from its Thai plant to the Philippines.

Based on its five-year plan, Ford is expected to ship $278.558 million worth of CBUs to Thailand while bringing in $272.332 million worth of CBUs and parts to the Philippines.

Ford is expected to enjoy tariff discounts on the two-way trade of vehicles between the Philippines and Thailand. It will pay only between zero percent and 5 percent on its products compared to the prevailing CBU duties of 20 percent and 15 percent in the Philippines and Thailand, respectively.

SEC covers lending investors, DOJ rules

BY ELENA R. TORRIJOS

THE JUSTICE department has ruled that the Securities and Exchange Commission has jurisdiction over lending investors, except when they were engaged in quasi-banking.

In a ruling issued recently, the department further clarified that lending investors engaged in quasi-banking, or borrowing from more than 19 lenders for investment, were covered by Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas regulations.

Justice Secretary Hernando Perez said, in the ruling, that the regulatory jurisdiction of the BSP over institutions engaged in quasi-banking was clearly defined and delineated by the New Central Bank Act and the General Banking Act of 2000.

Lending investors that perform the function of a financing company but are not into quasi-banking fall within the regulatory jurisdiction of the SEC based on the Financing Company Act of 1998, Perez maintained.

SEC Chair Lilia Bautista said the ruling also indicated that only corporations could operate as lending investors. This, she said, meant that single proprietorships or partnerships engaged in the business would have to register with the SEC.

Bautista said the Commission was willing to give lending investors currently registered as single proprietorships or partnerships with the Department of Trade and Industry a three-year grace period to transform themselves into corporations and to register with the SEC.

Under a circular issued by the SEC recently, however, new lending investors should register as financing companies. This means they will be covered by various capital and reportorial requirements. They will also be required to maintain a minimum capital of P10 million, if based in Metro Manila, or P2.5 million, if based in rural areas.

New lending investors will also be required to submit quarterly and annual reports.

There are currently 174 finance companies licensed by the SEC while lending investors number about 7,000.

Digitel pushing through with $200-M bond float

BY ABIGAIL L. HO

DIGITAL Telecommunications Philippines Inc. yesterday said that it would push through with its $200 million worth of bond flotation to finance its cellular phone service rollout despite the volatile market condition.

Digitel senior vice president for legal and inter-carrier services William Pamintuan said in a phone interview that the documentation of the bonds was almost completed. He said the flotation would take place within the next two months.

Digitel has tapped ING Barings to market the convertible bonds, which have a seven-year maturity and an interest rate of 10 percent.

But Digitel would not be completely dependent on the $200 million worth of bonds for the funding of the mobile phone service rollout, he added.

Aside from the bonds, Pamintuan said the Gokongwei-owned telecommunication company was also considering alternative sources of funds such as bank loans and suppliers' credit.

Digitel's wireless service rollout will definitely push through as scheduled, Pamintuan said. It was scheduled for launching last July but it was put off due to lack of funds.

"We're already hiring people for our wireless business. We already have a business unit head, Charles Lim. We'll also push through with our soft launch (in December)," he said.

Digitel currently has over 2,400 employees, but the number is expected to grow before the company starts commercial operations by the first quarter of next year.

To help the company ease into the fiercely competitive cellular market, the Board of Investments granted Digitel pioneering incentives in July. This means the company will enjoy income tax holiday for six to eight years.

Digitel is the telecommunication arm of JG Summit Holdings Inc. and the second-largest landline service provider in the country.

Maynilad told to raise ₱4B in fresh equity

BY CHRISTINE A. GAYLICAN

THE GOVERNMENT has required the Lopezes and their partner in Maynilad Water Co. Inc., Ondeo Philippines Inc., to infuse $80 million or about P4 billion in new equity into the water company before year-end

This was contained in the newly signed resolution that settled the dispute between the Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System and Maynilad over the adjustment in water rates and the resumption of Maynilad's payments of concession fees.

MWSS Administrator Jose F. Mabanta said the fresh capital infusion was needed to ensure the viability of the project. This, he said, should be included in the company's financial plan that would be submitted to MWSS on or before Oct. 31.

Mabanta said Maynilad should have the money to infuse since it has not been paying its concession fees in the last nine months, equivalent to about P1.7 billion. The fees were intended to cover the repayment of the bulk of MWSS' loans worth $800 million. Maynilad inherited 90 percent of MWSS' obligations in exchange for the concession area it got, which was bigger than that assigned to the Ayala group's Manila Water Co. Inc.

The row between the MWSS and Maynilad was finally settled last week with the issuance of the resolution that allowed the latter to raise its rate by P4.21 per cubic meter to recover previous losses arising from the peso depreciation.

MWSS has granted both Maynilad and MWC a tariff mechanism that would allow them to charge customers the losses arising from foreign exchange fluctuations.

T-bill rates slide; gov't readies more borrowings

By Clarissa S. Batino

RESPONDING to a token cut in policy rates made by the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas, the fixed-income market yesterday made its token reply by pushing the rate of the benchmark 91-day treasury bill down by 10.3 basis points to 9.627 percent.

The yield of the 182-day debt notes slid by a point to 11.929 percent while the rate of the one-year instrument rose by 8.8 points to 12.757 percent. Had the auction committee made a full P1.5-billion award on the 364-day notes, the rate would have reached 13 percent.

"The nervousness of the market was reflected in their bids as it absorbed the possible impact of the Sept. 11 attacks leading to a liquidity crunch in the world market and the difficulty of emerging markets like us in accessing credit," National Treasurer Sergio Edeza said.

The auction committee led by the Treasury made a full P1-billion award each for the 91- and 182-day treasuries. The one-year notes were P10 million short of a full award.

This early, Edeza said the government would like to build up its coffers by aggressively borrowing from both the foreign and local markets. The treasurer said that from now until year's end, the government has lined up about P30 billion in domestic borrowings.

Next week, the Treasury would issue some P30 billion to P40 billion worth of 10-year zero coupon bonds that would give the state coffers an initial cash flow of P10 billion.

In the first week of November, about P10 billion worth of four-year Retail Treasury bonds would be reissued. Within this quarter, another P10 billion worth of dollar-linked peso notes would also be floated in the market.

"By the end of the year we would have P30 billion from sources other than the regular treasury bills and bonds. We would like to build up our cash position to a comfortable level," Edeza said.

He said that with the United States starting to launch its offensive against Afghanistan, financial markets including the Philippines have been wary of the repercussions.

Banks are becoming more cautious and are putting their money in shorter-dated instruments, he said.

In the coming weeks, trading of government securities would bear similar uncertainties and the rates would be influenced by unfolding political and economic developments in global economies.

"If the uncertain mood persists, then we see rates moving sideways or even higher if things get worse," Edeza said.

He said the Treasury had anticipated only a slight decline in the benchmark borrowing rate despite a quarter-point cut in the central bank's policy rates last week.

Treasury bill yields track the movement of the central bank's overnight rates while the 91-day benchmark is used by banks in pricing their loans.

Edeza said despite the government's plan to beef up its cash position, the Treasury would continue to reject unreasonable bids.

RP gets tariff concessions from China

By Christine A. Gaylican

THE PHILIPPINES has obtained new tariff concessions on agricultural product exports to China as a result of bilateral negotiations and the latter's membership to the World Trade Organization.

There would be a significant lowering of tariff on Philippine exports of crude coconut oil, oil cake and solid residues of coconut and copra, and NPK (sodium nitrate) fertilizer to China from an average of 9 to 9.5 percent starting in 2005.

These products were earlier slapped a 10- to 11-percent tariff before its entry to China and would only be reduced to 9.5 percent by the year 2006.

This was a result of China's acceptance to the World Trade Organization last September. China's membership to the WTO will be formally announced in an economic ministerial meeting in November.

According to Agriculture Undersecretary Segfredo Serrano, to have a foothold at the WTO membership, China needed to open and liberalize its regime in order to better integrate in the world economy and offer a more predictable environment for trade and investments.

The Philippines, Serrano noted, would be able to negotiate significant reductions in tariff on high-value crops such as bananas to China as it further firms up its membership to the powerful and influential trading group.

Serrano said the WTO would make sure that the principle of the "most favored nation" would apply to all members.

"The adjustment of tariffs on our coconut oil products was prompted by the 10-percent increase in the in-quota volume granted by China to other competing vegetable oils such as soybean, palm and rape-seed oils with an in-quota tariff of 9 percent," Serrano said.

The agriculture official added that China committed to treat coconut oil on terms no less favorable than that accorded to directly competitive vegetable oil products imported from any other WTO member-country.

As the Philippine government anticipates a 15-percent reduction in the country's exports to the United States due to the escalating conflict with Muslim extremists, developing the $900-million coconut industry will instead target the local and regional markets like China, South Korean and Japan.

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2. ALABANG COUNTRY CLUB "B"	1,000,000	
3. BAGUIO COUNTRY CLUB	725,000	700,000
4. CALATAGAN GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB "A"	100,000	
5. CAMP JOHN HAY	350,000	
6. CANLUBANG GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB	800,000	
7. CAPITOL HILLS GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB	125,000	
8. CELEBRITY CLUB	210,000	
9. COUNTRY CLUB AT TAGAYTAY HIGHLANDS	400,000	380,000
10. CLUB FILIPINO	250,000	
11. EASTRIDGE GOLF CLUB "A"	220,000	
12. EAGLERIDGE GOLF CLUB "A"	375,000	340,000
13. EVERCREST GOLF CLUB "A"	140,000	100,000
14. FAIRWAYS & BLUEWATER	Pls. Call	Pls. Call
15. FOREST HILLS GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB "A"	230,000	
16. FOREST HILLS GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB "B"	280,000	
17. FOREST HILLS GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB "C"	500,000	400,000
18. MAKATI SPORTS CLUB "A"	300,000	
19. MAKATI SPORTS CLUB "B"	400,000	
20. MANILA GOLF CLUB (CORP.)	16,000,000	
21. MANILA POLO CLUB	3,300,000	
22. MANILA SOUTHWOODS GOLF CLUB "A"	750,000	700,000
23. MANILA SOUTHWOODS GOLF CLUB "B"	900,000	800,000
24. MANILA YACHT CLUB	650,000	
25. METROPOLITAN CLUB "A"	150,000	
26. METROPOLITAN CLUB "B"	170,000	150,000
27. MT. MALARAYAT GOLF CLUB (IND.)	375,000	
28. ORCHARD GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB "A"	250,000	240,000
29. ORCHARD GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB "B"	400,000	
30. ORCHARD GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB "C"	550,000	
31. PUERTO AZUL BEACH CLUB	150,000	140,000
32. QUEZON CITY SPORTS CLUB	230,000	200,000
33. RIVIERA GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB "A"	220,000	
34. RIVIERA GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB "B"	350,000	
35. ROYAL NORTHWOODS	Pls. Call	
36. STA. ELENA GOLF CLUB "A"	1,800,000	1,600,000
37. SUBIC BAY YACHT CLUB (IND)	300,000	
38. TAGAYTAY HIGHLANDS INT'L. GOLF CLUB	900,000	850,000
39. TAGAYTAY MIDLAND	800,000	
40. VALLE VERDE COUNTRY CLUB	195,000	175,000
41. VALLEY GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB	250,000	
42. WACK WACK GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB	8,000,000	

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COUNTRY SHARES
As of October 09, 2001

	BUYING	SELLING
ALABANG COUNTRY CLUB A	-	1.5M
BAGUIO COUNTRY CLUB	725,000	750,000
CALATAGAN GOLF CLUB A/B*	-	100,000/105,000 *
CAMP JOHN HAY	-	300,000
CANLUBANG	-	800,000
CAPITOL HILLS	-	130,000
CELEBRITY SPORTS CLUB	200,000	215,000
EAGLE RIDGE A/B*/C**	620,000 **	350,000/450,000*/700,000 **
EVERCREST A/B*	-	100,000/150,000 *
FONTANA D/C*/B**	120,000 *	90,000/150,000*/230,000 **
FOREST HILLS A/B*/C**	230,000	240,000/350,000*/450,000 **
LUISITA GOLF CLUB	500,000	Please call or swap
MAKATI SPORTS A/B*	-	300,000/400,000 *
MANILA GOLF CLUB CORP.	-	14M
MANILA POLO CLUB	2,575,000	2,600,000
MANILA SOUTHWOODS A/B*	-	700,000/850,000 *
METROPOLITAN A/B*	-	170,000/180,000 *
MIMOSA IND./CORP.*	-	240,000/375,000 *
MT. MALARAYAT A/C* (w/lot)**	-	350,000/650,000*/2.0M **
ORCHARD A/B*/C**	600,000 **	240,000/425,000 *
PUERTO AZUL A/B*	150,000	170,000/Please call *
RIVIERA A/B*	-	230,000/400,000 *
ROCKWELL CLUB	500,000	550,000
ROYALE TAGAYTAY A/B*/C**	100,000	120,000/150,000*/180,000 **
SHERWOOD HILLS A/B*/C**	-	250,000/350,000*/450,000 **
STA. ELENA GOLF CLUB A	1,700,000	1,825,000
SUBIC BAY IND/CORP.*	400,000 *	300,000/450,000 *
TAT FILIPINAS GOLF A/B*	-	350,000/550,000 *
TAGAYTAY HIGHLANDS CC/GOLF*	650,000 *	380,000/900,000 *
TAGAYTAY MIDLANDS	750,000	800,000
VALLE VERDE IND.	180,000	185,000
WACK WACK	7.0M	7.5M

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Selling: Villas, Belleview, Pinecrest & Woodlands in Tagaytay Highlands
Lots: Eagleridge, Forest Hills, Punta Fuego, Royale Tagaytay & Southwoods
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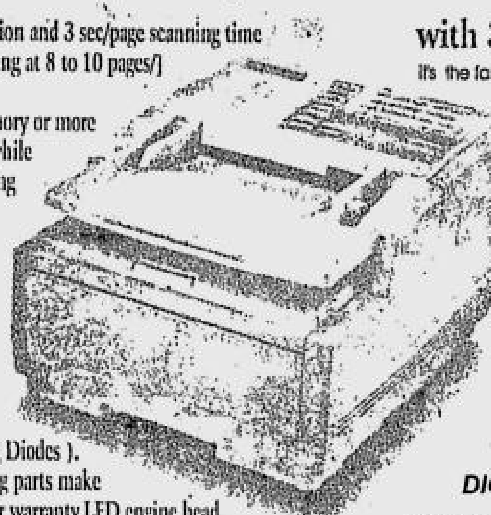

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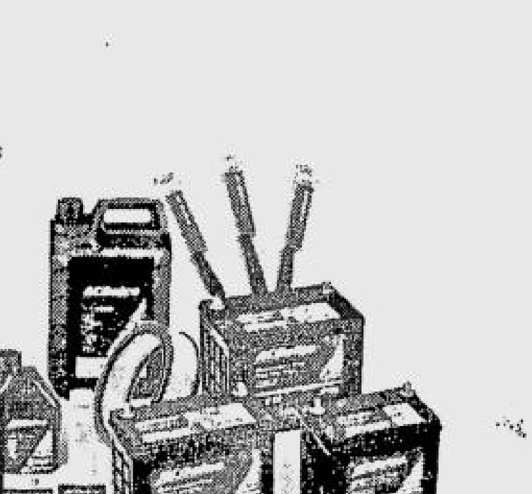

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Asian stocks tumble after US strikes against Afghanistan

HONG KONG—Asian stocks tumbled Monday after the United States-led military strikes against Afghanistan, but losses were moderate because the action had been long expected, dealers said.

Nevertheless, regional markets would continue to be plagued by uncertainty over how long the action would continue, how far it would spread and the possibility of further terrorist attacks, they added.

Asian markets were the first to reopen after US President George W. Bush ordered strikes Sunday against targets linked to Afghanistan's Taliban regime.

The Talibans are believed to be sheltering Osama bin Laden, the Islamic militant suspected of being behind the Sept. 11 terror attacks against New York and Washington.

In Sydney, ABN-Amro Equities Australia strategist Gerard Minack said "timing aside, the counter-attack should not surprise anyone. Even Osama bin Laden had pre-recorded his response."

"The major military uncertainty for markets is not the American attack but the threat of a terrorist response. How likely that is remains an unknown but clearly is a lingering negative for equity markets," Minack said.

Dealers said many investors were waiting for Wall Street's reaction to the military reprisals. However, US markets were to remain closed Monday for a public holiday, along with Asia's key market in Tokyo.

Hong Kong shares closed 2.7 percent lower in morning trade in what dealers described as a knee-jerk reaction to the US-led strikes. The key Hang Seng index lost 280.46 points to close the morning session at 9,996.92.

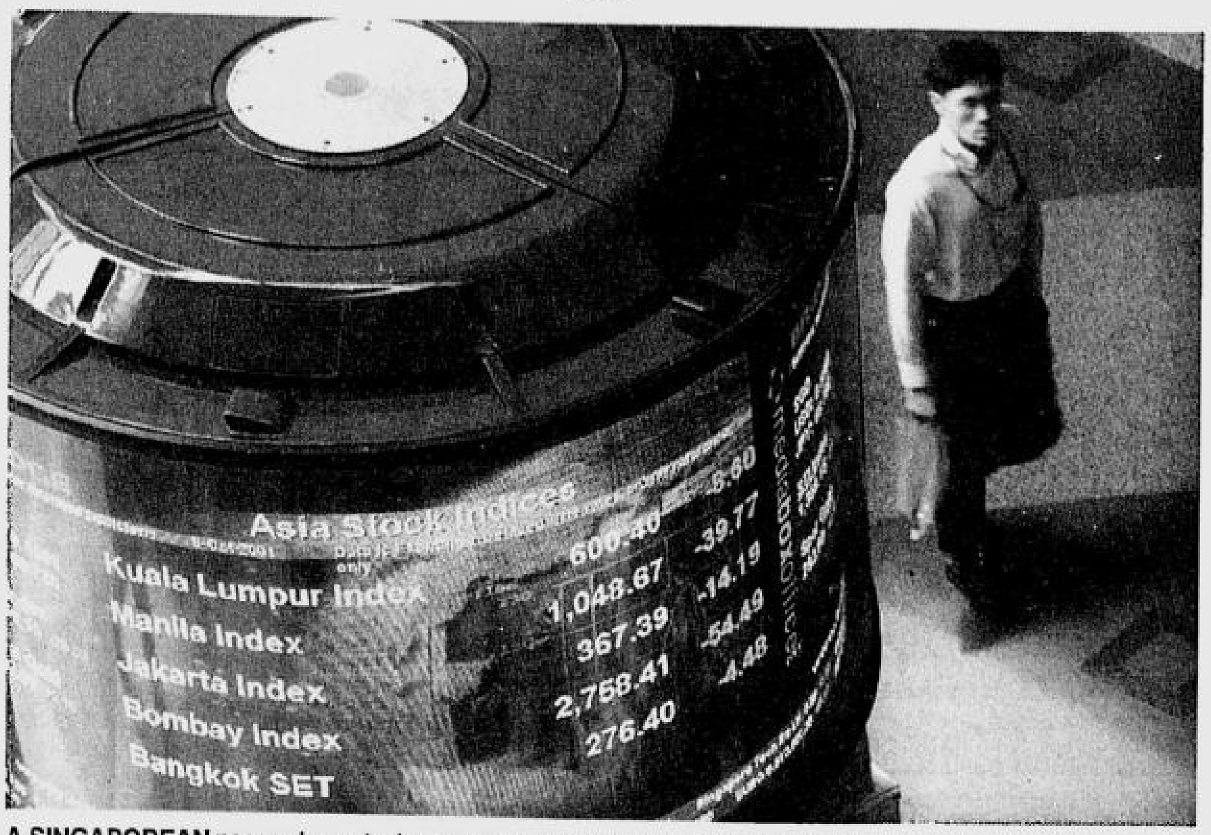
Ross Cheung, an analyst with Tanrich Securities, said the market was slightly overbought last week, and investors were using the US-led military action as an excuse for profit taking.

The reaction on the Australian market to the expected attacks was muted but investors would continue to react warily as the US war against terrorism unfolded, dealers said.

In late afternoon trade, the key All Ordinaries index was down 34.60 points or 1.1 percent at 3,079.60.

"The market is reacting to the uncertainty that this military action brings," Ausbil Dexia equities director Paul Xiradis said.

Singapore share prices closed the morning session down 1.9 percent recovering from early heavy falls. *AFP*



A SINGAPOREAN passes by a stock quote board in Singapore. Shares plunged across Asia to show some big losses by early Monday afternoon, with the US and British strikes on targets in Afghanistan throwing fresh uncertainty into markets that were already jittery. **AP**

US strikes pose new market risks

NEW YORK—Military strikes that allow the United States to claim swift victory in crippling the Taliban government of Afghanistan and Islamic leader Osama bin Laden would prove a powerful tonic for markets worldwide.

Yet such crisp, clean results are far from certain in this new global conflict—one that pits the United States against an enemy often hidden and one that knows no geographic bounds.

"Watch and wait," must be the byword for markets, said James Glassman, a senior economist at JP Morgan Chase Securities in New York.

The military strikes that the United States and Britain began on Sunday against Afghanistan in a quest to hunt down those they blame for destroying the World Trade towers in New York and damaging the Pentagon on Sept. 11 ended one period of uncertainty that caused volatility in world markets.

But it also unleashed new risks and brings with it new uncertainty.

"An awful lot is going to hinge on the perceived success of this mission," said Alan Ruskin, a research director of 4Cast Ltd., in New York.

"If things are perceived to start to be going wrong, either militarily or politically—riots in Pakistan, the Islamic world up in arms, the US coalition fracturing—that will be negative for equity markets and dollar assets as well."

Right now, economists and financial experts say markets face a neutral scenario—a protracted battle with the United States and its allies bombarding military installations, training camps and airports in Afghanistan as they try to topple the Taliban government and flush out the radical Islamic leader Bin Laden, who the United States accuses of masterminding the Sept. 11 attacks.

Market reaction in this phase probably will be muted, relieved that the attacks are targeted ones. Many stock indices already have dropped sharply in anticipation of the US response. The Dow Jones industrials has shed 5.06 percent to reach 9,119.77 since the attacks, France's CAC 40 is off a similar amount and Germany's Xetra DAX down 3.91 percent.

Yields on two-year treasury notes, meanwhile, have sunk to a record low at 2.7 percent as investors seek the safest assets and the Swiss franc, a traditional safe haven, has soared.

Anthony Karydakis, a senior financial economist at Banc Once Capital Markets in Chicago, said the retaliatory strikes would probably accentuate this market trend in the week ahead.

"These attacks seem to be relative, precise and contained. So yes, you will have some flight to quality with the front end (short-dated Treasuries) benefiting. Stocks won't be too happy about these things, but not a cataclysmic event," he said.

What would prove highly destabilizing, though, is violence unfurling around the globe and a fraying of the international coalition among Western, Asian and Middle Eastern nations that President Bush has been stitching together. *Reuters*

Metro bailout won't affect deal, says PSE

By Doris C. Dumlao

THE PHILIPPINE Stock Exchange said yesterday that any agreement it would sign with Metro Pacific Corp. regarding its unified trading floor would have to be upheld even if Metro Pacific decides to unload its controlling stake in the Fort Bonifacio Global City project.

In a news briefing, PSE building committee chair Ismael Cruz said whoever would buy Metro Pacific's stake in Fort Bonifacio Development Corp. should honor Metro Pacific's commitments to the local bourse.

In 1999, Metro Pacific offered to donate to the PSE a piece of land inside Fort Bonifacio. It also agreed to shoulder the cost of building the stock exchange's headquarters that would unify its Makati and Ortigas trading floors.

Metro Pacific made these offers to entice the PSE to use Fort Bonifacio as its main address that, in turn, will give Fort Bonifacio a financial hub.

Metro Pacific was then trying to develop Fort Bonifacio as an alternative business district to Makati.

With slumping property prices triggered by the 1997 to 1998 Asian financial crisis, however, Metro Pacific is trying to renegotiate its deal with the PSE. It concedes that it can no longer meet its commitments by 2004.

"The agreement will be approved by the FBDC board. Remember that this is a joint venture between Bonifacio Land Corp., which owns only 55 percent of FBDC, while the other portion is owned by the government," the PSE building committee's Cruz told reporters.

FBDC is a joint venture between Bonifacio Land, which is 69.6 percent owned by Metro Pacific, and state-controlled Bases Conversion Development Authority.

Cruz stressed that whoever would buy Metro Pacific's stake in FBDC would have to assume Metro Pacific's obligations to the PSE.

Metro Pacific was reported last week to be in talks to sell its entire stake in the Fort Bonifacio project to Ayala Land Inc.

Cruz said should Ayala Land succeed in buying out Metro Pacific, it would have to assume Metro Pacific's commitments to build the stock exchange's unified trading floor.

Metro Pacific unit Bonifacio Land earlier attempted to bid out its 55-percent stake in the project.

Ayala Land was the only group that participated during the bidding, but its offer was rejected.

Ayala Land offered only P1.23 billion for the Bonifacio Land's stake in a new company to be spun off by FBDC. This bid translated to a price of P11,800 per square meter, or a hefty 65-percent discount off the price at which the property was acquired by Metro Pacific in 1995.

Persons familiar with the situation said Ayala Land was willing to improve on this offer.

Filinvest Land keeps premium rating

PHILIPPINE Rating Services Corp. has maintained its "Aa" rating for housing developer Filinvest Land Inc.

In a statement issued yesterday, Philratings said the Aa rating would apply to P1 billion in long-term commercial papers that Filinvest was set to issue.

The same rating was maintained on Filinvest's outstanding P2 billion in long-term commercial papers issued in 1999.

Philratings said the Aa rating indicated that Filinvest had a "strong capability for timely repayment of principal and interest on its obligations."

"Margins of protection may not be as large as in 'Aaa' issues. Fluctuations of protective elements may be of greater amplitude or there may be elements which make the long-term risks appear somewhat larger than for Aaa-rated securities," Philratings said in explaining its rating structure.

Aaa-rated securities are those with the "smallest degree of investment risk."

"The rating on Filinvest's debt issue is based on the company's above-average business profile, stemming from its position as a large and established homebuilder with a prudent operating strategy," Philratings said.

"Filinvest's earnings level remains acceptable and relatively stable, while cash flow measures are seen as moderate. These factors, however, are still balanced against a still difficult market environment which can continue to constrain demand in the property sector," it said.

Filinvest is issuing P1 billion in long-term commercial papers as part of a financing package it is putting up to retire maturing debts.

Filinvest has $54 million to $55 million in dollar-denominated debts due next month.

Its total debts amount to P5.3 billion.

Filinvest is one of the oldest and largest residential real estate developers in the Philippines, offering a range of products from socialized and affordable housing to middle income and high-end housing, to various types of subdivision lots.

Apart from Ayala Land Inc., Filinvest is among the few property counters still attractive to foreign investors.

From January to June this year, Filinvest chalked up a net income of P374 million, almost flat compared with P375 million it posted in the same semester last year. Its total resources stood at P25 billion.

Filinvest was recognized by the financial publication "Euromoney" in its December 1999 issue as among the Top 3 property companies in Asia. Another financial publication, "Finance Asia," recognized Filinvest as one of "Asia's best-performing companies" in its March 2000 issue.

Stocks slump on fresh war jitters

(From page B1)

ing from the US crackdown on Bin Laden, believed to be the perpetrator of the terrorist attacks in New York and Washington, D.C., last Sept. 11.

Blue chips Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co. shed P27.50 to close at P383.50. Bank of the Philippine Islands and Ayala Land Inc. lost P2.50 and 20 centavos, respectively, to close at P47 and P3.85. Retailer SM Prime Holdings Inc. also shed 30 centavos to P5.20.

ATR Kim Eng Securities head of research Luz Lorenzo said the market has yet to see the end of the freefall as the military actions from the United States and allied countries against suspected terrorists have just begun. She said it was too premature to judge whether the retaliatory actions would be successful or not and that every one was concerned that the conflict might drag on.

"On the other hand, current stock prices are still not attractive for bottom-picking given the global slowdown and the profit picture is not likely to improve," Lorenzo said.

As the United States is the country's biggest trade partner, Lorenzo said a protracted war would further affect the domestic economy.

Worldsec International Securities head of research Eric Claudio said the market could still go as low as 930 based on the price-to-book value ratio of companies when the market hit the lowest level in 1998.

Citisecurities head of research April Lee-Tan, on the other hand, said: "We don't know to what extent the conflict would lead to. If this is not resolved soon, it will further affect the economy of the US. All investors are worried that this conflict will affect all nations."

Lee-Tan said the next psychological resistance would be at 1,000.

Eagle Equities president Joseph Roxas said that the local stock market would now take its cue on how US stocks would perform after the retaliatory attacks.

"I don't think it will affect consumer spending. Negative impact will just be over the short-term," he said.

5 yrs needed to relocate oil depots

By Ronnel W. Domingo

PETRON Corp. said yesterday that the relocation of the Pandacan oil depots would not affect the country's oil supply if this was given enough time, which was at least five years.

Petron vice president for supply and operations Jose Campos said should the government decide to boot the oil depots out of Pandacan, it should give Petron Corp., Pilipinas Shell Petroleum Corp. and Caltex Philippines Inc. a "realistic" schedule.

"Five years is already tight. If we have less than that, the relocation might be done haphazardly and the continuity of supply may be adversely affected," Campos said in a news briefing.

He added that moving the oil depots would cost some P3 billion, excluding the costs of acquiring new sites and building new terminals.

Campos also expressed concern that the additional cost would coincide with the expected P6 billion in new investments needed to enable Petron to comply with the Clean Air Act.

The law requires all oil firms to reduce the harmful content levels of their products effective next year.

Campos could not say how much these would increase pump prices, but said there "might be" such an effect.

Earlier reports said relocation costs would jack up prices by about P1 a liter while investments for the Clean Air Act would add another P2 a liter.

On the other hand, Campos said Petron did not see any real need to transfer its depot.

Philippine Stock Exchange

(As of Monday, October 8, 2001)

STOCKS	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
BANKS & FINANCIAL SERVICES					
BANKS					
Asiatrust Dev. Bank Inc.	4.5	4.6	4.5	4.6	8,000
Bank of the Phil. Islands	48.5	48.5	45.5	47	682,500
China Banking Corp.	550	550	550	550	2,170
Equitable PCI Bank Inc.	22	22	20	20	192,900
Global Business Bank Inc.	67.5	75.5	67.5	75.5	2,000
Metropolitan Bank & Trust	190	193	189	190	31,210
Philippine National Bank	49	49.5	49	49.5	605,000
Security Bank Corp.	16.75	16.75	16.75	16.75	2,100
Union Bank of the Phil.	14.5	14.5	14	14.25	769,600
FINANCIAL SERVICE					
Bankard Inc.	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	60,000
Filipino Fund Inc.	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	50,000
Manulife Financial Corp.	1320	1330	1320	1325	6,150
PCI Leasing & Fin. Inc.	0.64	0.64	0.64	0.64	20,000
Sun Life Financial Serv.	1040	1040	1030	1030	12,860
COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL					
COMMUNICATION					
ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp.	25	26.5	25	25	25,400
Digital Telecom Phils Inc	0.27	0.27	0.27	0.27	500,000
Globe Telecom Inc.	610	610	590	590	246,390
Liberty Telecoms Holdings	0.47	0.47	0.47	0.47	10,000
Manila Bulletin Pub. Corp.	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	2,000
Phil. Telegraph & Tel. Co.	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	80,000
Phil. Long Dis Tel Co.	405	405	380	382.5	109,930
Philweb.Com Inc.	0.02	0.02	0.018	0.019	29,000,000
POWER & ENERGY					
Manila Electric Co. A	22.5	22.5	21.75	22	25,000
Manila Electric Co. B	33	33	31.5	32	279,800
Petron Corp.	1.22	1.22	1.14	1.16	3,024,000
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES					
Int'l Container Term'l Sv	1.24	1.24	1.16	1.18	2,669,000
William, Gothong & Aboitiz	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	38,516,000
CONSTRUCTION & OTHER RELATED PRODUCTS					
Union Cement Corp.	1.12	1.12	1.12	1.12	252,000
FOOD, BEVERAGES & TOBACCO					
Alaska Milk Corp.	2.08	2.08	2.06	2.08	423,000
Cosmos Bottling Corp.	5.5	5.5	5.4	5.4	447,000
Jollibee Foods Corp.	11.75	11.75	.11.5	11.5	12,900
La Tondena Distillers Inc.	24.5	24.5	24	24	6,000
RFM CORP.	2	2.04	1.96	1.98	991,000
San Miguel Corp. A	38.5	39.5	38	39.5	105,900
San Miguel Corp. B	51.5	51.5	50.5	51	63,300
HOLDING FIRMS					
Abacus Con Res & Hdg A	0.54	0.54	0.53	0.53	20,000
Ayala Corp.	5.4	5.4	5.1	5.2	5,523,000
Aboitiz Equity Ventures	1.36	1.36	1.3	1.34	2,961,000
A. Soriano Corp.	0.43	0.43	0.43	0.43	1,240,000
Benpres Holdings Corp.	1.04	1.04	0.97	0.99	8,118,000
DMCI Holdings Inc.	0.16	0.16	0.15	0.15	800,000
First Phil Hldgs Corp.	24.25	24.25	23.5	23.5	36,800
Forum Pacific Inc.	0.12	0.135	0.12	0.135	50,000
J.G. Summit Holdings Inc.	1.32	1.32	1.26	1.28	521,000
Macroasia Corp.	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	313,000
Megaworld Corp.	0.55	0.56	0.55	0.56	1,310,000
Metro Pacific Corp.	0.21	0.21	0.2	0.21	3,040,000
Music Corp.	0.49	0.49	0.48	0.48	600,000
Philtread Holdings Corp.	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	100,000
Solid Group Inc.	0.35	0.35	0.35	0.35	150,000
Uniwide Holdings Inc.	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	140,000
Waterfront Phils. Inc.	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	100,000
MANUFACTURING, DISTRIBUTION & TRADING					
Corro-Coat Inc.	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	20,000
Picop Resources Inc.	0.0675	0.0675	0.0675	0.0675	300,000
SPI Technologies Inc.	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	6,000
HOTEL, RECREATION & OTHER SERVICE					
Belle Corp.	0.36	0.36	0.36	0.36	100,000
Fairmont Holdings Inc.	0.43	0.43	0.42	0.42	200,000
Grand Plaza Hotel Corp.	14	14	14	14	4,000
Manila Jockey Club	10	10	10	10	1,000
BONDS, PREFERRED & WARRANTS					
ABS-CBN Hldgs. Corp. (Pdr)	25	25.5	24.75	25.5	22,900
DMCI Holdings Inc.- Pref.	520	520	510	515	1,650
Equitable PCI Bank-War	1.02	1.02	1	1	100,000
Globe Tel. A - Warrants	425	425	425	425	12,650
Globe Telecom Hldg (Pdr)	560	560	500	555	3,790
PLDT (10% Pref) Series T	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	1,000
PLDT (10% Pref.) Series U	10	10	10	10	1,000
PLDT (10% Pref) Series V	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	1,000
PLDT (10% Pref) Series W	10	10.25	10	10.25	2,000
PLDT (10% Pref) Series X	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	1,000
PLDT (10% Pref) Series Z	10	10	10	10	1,000
PLDT 10% Pref Series Aa	10	10	10	10	1,000
Philweb.Com Inc. -Warrants	0.005	0.0055	0.005	0.0055	11,000,000
OTHERS					
Centro Escolar University	9.7	9.9	9.7	9.9	4,000
PROPERTY					
Ayala Land Inc.	4.1	4.1	3.75	3.85	8,054,000
Cebu Holdings Inc.	0.28	0.28	0.28	0.28	250,000
C & P Homes Inc.	0.155	0.16	0.155	0.16	1,950,000
Cyber Bay Corp.	0.23	0.23	0.22	0.23	570,000
Empire East Land Inc.	0.21	0.21	0.205	0.205	2,220,000
Edsa Prop. Holdings Inc.	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	8,000
Filinvest Land Inc.	1.2	1.2	1.12	1.16	3,775,000
Kuok Phil. Properties	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.08	400,000
City & Land Developers	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.2	100,000
MRC Allied Ind. Inc.	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	10,000
Phil Realty And Holdings	0.055	0.055	0.055	0.055	200,000
SM Prime Holdings Inc.	5.4	5.4	5.1	5.2	5,745,000
MINING					
Apex Mining Co. Inc. A	0.22	0.22	0.22	0.22	300,000
Apex Mining Co. Inc B	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.23	30,000
Itogon-Suyoc Mines A	0.022	0.022	0.021	0.022	4,200,000
Lepanto Cons Mng. Co. A	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.16	1,000,000
Lepanto Cons. Mng. Co B	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	1,200,000
Polar Mines & Dev't Corp.	0.016	0.016	0.016	0.016	11,500,000
Philex Mining Corp. A	0.27	0.27	0.27	0.27	400,000
Philex Mining Corp. B	0.31	0.31	0.31	0.31	260,000
OIL					
The Philodrill Corp. A	0.205	0.205	0.205	0.205	150,000

CURRENCIES

Oct. 08, 2001

Country	Unit	Euro Equivalent	Foreign currency in US$	Foreign currency in Peso
United States	Dollar	1.088021	1.000000	51.5320
Japan	Yen	0.009032	0.008301	0.4278
United Kingdom	Pound	1.613426	1.482900	76.4168
Hong Kong	Dollar	0.139506	0.128220	6.6074
Switzerland	Franc	0.673363	0.618888	31.8925
Canada	Dollar	0.696467	0.640123	32.9868
Singapore	Dollar	0.608683	0.559441	28.8291
Australia	Dollar	0.550423	0.505894	26.0697
Bahrain	Dinar	2.886151	2.652681	136.6969
Saudi Arabia	Rial	0.290115	0.266645	13.7408
Brunei	Dollar	0.610151	0.560790	28.8986
Indonesia	Rupiah	0.000111	0.000102	0.0053
Thailand	Baht	0.024324	0.022356	1.1520
UAE	Dirham	0.296302	0.272331	14.0338
Korea	Won	0.000836	0.000768	0.0396
Euro	Euro	1.000000	0.919100	47.3631
Germany	Mark	0.511291	0.469928	24.2163
France	Franc	0.152450	0.140116	7.2205
Netherlands	Guilder	0.453780	0.417069	21.4924
Austria	Schilling	0.072673	0.066794	3.4420
Belgium	Franc	0.024789	0.022784	1.1741
Italy	Lire	0.000517	0.000475	0.0245
Finland	Markka	0.168188	0.154582	7.0659
Portugal	Escudo	0.004987	0.004584	0.2362
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Will sell all expired pledges left during the months of February and March 2001 on October 21, 2001, Sunday at 10:00 a.m. Sons of J. Lanuza Auctioneer

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Republic of the Philippines
BONDOC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM
Project Management Office
Perez Street, Catanauan, Quezon

The BDP-PMO wishes to invite interested parties to pre-qualify and to bid for the materials needed below:

1 lot - supplies and materials for SIPA DOS Irrigation Project at Padre Burgos, Quezon
1 lot - supplies and materials for Farm to Marker Road at Brgy. Suha, Catanauan, Quezon

Pre-qualification forms, complete details and particulars of the above-mentioned can be obtained from BDP-PMO Perez Street, Catanauan, Quezon upon payment of a non-refundable fee of P500.00 from **10 to 12 October 2001.**

Accomplished pre-qualification statement and annexes should be received by BDP Lucena Liaison Office or Project Management Office, Catanauan, Quezon on or before **18 October 2001.**

Only qualified bidders shall be allowed to participate in the bidding conference which will be held on **29 October 2001**, 2:00 p.m. at BDP-PMO, Perez Street, Catanauan, Quezon.

BDP-PMO reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive any defect therein, and accept such bids most advantageous to the government.

(Sgd.) **ALLEN O. MOLEN**
PBAC Chairman

(PDI – Oct. 8, 9 & 10, 2001)

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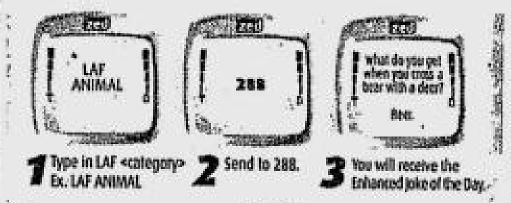
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Qualified candidates may submit resumé, transcript and photo at:

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17/F JMT Corporation Condominium
ADB Avenue, Ortigas Center, Pasig

PNOC
PNOC-Energy Development Corporation
Energy Center, Merritt Road
Fort Bonifacio, Taguig, Metro Manila
Telephone 8931320 loc. 5115 Fax 840-1461

INVITATION TO BID

The PNOC-Energy Development Corporation (PNOC-EDC) invites interested accredited or prequalified contractors to submit sealed bids for the project:

UPGRADING OF CRITICAL ROAD SECTION AT BAC-MAN GEOTHERMAL PRODUCTION FIELD
EDC 01-171

Bid documents may be secured from the Contracts Administration Group (c/o IGNACIUS M. CORCUERA) starting **OCTOBER 8, 2001** upon payment of a non-refundable amount of **PESOS: FIVE HUNDRED PESOS ONLY (P500.00).**

Sealed bids in two (2) sets shall be received by the Contracts Administration Group at the above address not later than 2:00 p.m. of **October 25, 2001** and then publicly opened immediately thereafter.

For purposes of clarifying certain issues, a pre-bid conference and site inspection will be held on **October 18, 2001**, 10:00 a.m. at the PNOC-EDC, Bac-Man Geothermal Production Field, Tubiljon, Sorsogon.

PNOC-EDC reserves the right to reject any or all bids or parts thereof, to waive any informality therein, to accept such bids or to award any part of the work to any bidder(s) whose bid(s) is(are) considered most advantageous to PNOC-EDC.

(Sgd.) **ESTER R. GUERZON**
Manager, Operations
Services Division

(PDI – Oct. 9, 2001)

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
NATIONAL HOUSING AUTHORITY

INVITATION TO SUBMIT PROPOSALS FOR PRE-FABRICATED MATERIALS, BUILDING SYSTEMS, AND TECHNOLOGY FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF SOCIALIZED AND LOW-COST HOUSING UNITS

The National Housing Authority is in search of pre-fabricated housing materials, building systems, and technology for the construction of socialized and low-cost housing units.

Interested parties shall submit their Letters of Intent to the Project Evaluation Committee (PEC), c/o the Office of the Assistant General Manager, 3rd Floor, NHA Main Building not later than **October 10, 2001.**

Copies of the Terms of Reference may be obtained from the Committee Secretariat on **October 10-17, 2001** upon payment of non-refundable fee of P200.00. Pre-bid Conference is scheduled on **October 23, 2001** at 10:00 a.m. at the Operation Center, 3rd Floor, NHA Main Building.

The NHA reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, waive formalities or any defects therein and accept the offer most advantageous to the Government.

(Sgd.) **JOSEPH PETER S. SISON**
Chairman
Project Evaluation Committee

(PDI – Sept. 29, Oct. 5 & 9, 2001)

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Manuel Lacson Yusay

Peacefully joined his Creator on Sunday, October 7, 2001
at the age of 100.

His loving children **ESTANISLAO** (†), **CONCEPCION** and **GREGORIO TIRADOR**, **RODOLFO** and **LINDA**, **RAYMUNDO** (†), **ANTONIO** and **FE**, **MINDA** and **ADOR RODRIGUEZ**, **ERLINDA**, **RAUL** and **PURITA**, **JORGE** (†), **PATRICIO**, **CHAM** and **GLORIA**, **OSCAR** (†) and **LINDA**, **VIRGILIO** and **SUZZETTE**, **SYLVIA** and **GENARO DEL ROSARIO, JR.**, **ALEXANDER** and **MARILYN**, **PETER** and **LEILA**, **ANA LOURDES**; grandchildren, great grandchildren, relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His body lies in state at the Yusay Ancestral Home Plaza Molo, Iloilo City.

Interment will be on Saturday, October 13, 2001 at Molo Catholic Cemetery after the 3:00 p.m. Mass at Molo Catholic Church.

AMANDA ANGELES DATU

of Bacolor, Pampanga
Died on October 8, 2001 at the age of 84.

Her bereaved sisters and brothers **MARIA & PITT VAZQUEZ, JESUS & JOAN DATU, ELENA & VILESO SALVADOR, FRED & AVELINA DATU**; nephews & nieces; relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her body lies in state at Arlington Memorial Chapels, 12 G. Araneta Ave., Quezon City.

A Solemn Mass will be held on October 11, 2001 at 8:00 a.m. Cremation follows at La Funeraria Paz, Araneta Ave., Quezon City.

Ashes will be brought to Mt. Carmel Church, Gilmore, Quezon City.

* PLEASE OMIT FLOWERS *

"My soul finds rest to God alone;
from Him comes my salvation."

Our Dearly Beloved **MAMA**

Doña Petronila Cabo Chan Tupaz

October 19, 1919 — October 07, 2001 • 81 years old

Her bereaved children **Jun, Boy, Yolly, Danny, Manoling, Eddie, Lynda, Monching, Carlos, Dodie** and their respective spouses; grandchildren, great grandchildren, relatives and friends request pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at the Capilla Dela Virgen, Santuario de San Antonio, Forbes Park, Makati City.

Cremation will be on Sunday, October 14, 2001 at the Manila Memorial Park, Parañaque City, after the 9:30 a.m. Mass at the Capilla Dela Virgen, Santuario de San Antonio, Makati City.

"...absent with the body to be present with the Lord."
2 Cor. 5:8

Jose "Pepe" Morada

President, Philippine Jaycees (1962-63)
President, Rotary Club of Davao (1969-70)

*Joined his beloved **Letty** on Saturday, 6 October 2001*
at the age of 78.

His bereaved sister, **Expectacion M. Ibarreta** and her children; and those of **Ramon** and **Negring Morada** and **Humawi** and **Lilia M. Vicencio**; grandnephews and nieces request the pious readers to pray that his soul find peaceful rest in God.

His remains lie in state at the Cosmopolitan Funeral Parlor, Davao City. Interment will be on Wednesday, 10 October after Mass at 2:00 p.m. at the Davao Memorial Park.

In lieu of flowers, contributions to the **JOSE G.** and **LETICIA P. MORADA FOUNDATION FOR CANCER CARE** will be appreciated.

FERNANDO G. PARAISO

Peacefully joined his Creator on October 8, 2001
at the age of 85.

His bereaved wife **ELIZABETH**; children **MARIA FE, ELIZABETH & JOSEPH, CHITO & ROSE** and **NANETTE & SONNIE**; grandchildren **NATHANIEL, EDENLYN, ADAN, MELVIN, RIEZELLE, JEREMIAH, JAMIELYN & JOEL** mourn his passing away but celebrate his eternal rest with the Lord Jesus.

His body lies in state at Arlington Memorial Chapels, 12 G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City.

Interment will be announced later.

"Come to Me, all you who are weary and burdened,
and I will give you rest."
Matthew 11:28

ROSA VILLEGAS BAVIERA

August 31, 1920 — October 8, 2001
Peacefully joined her Creator
on the 8th of October 2001 at the age of 81.

Her loving children, daughters-in-law, grandchildren, relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at La Funeraria Paz at Araneta Avenue, Quezon City.

Interment will be on Thursday, October 11, 2001 at 10:00 a.m. at the Loyola Memorial Park, Marikina City after the 9:00 a.m. Mass.

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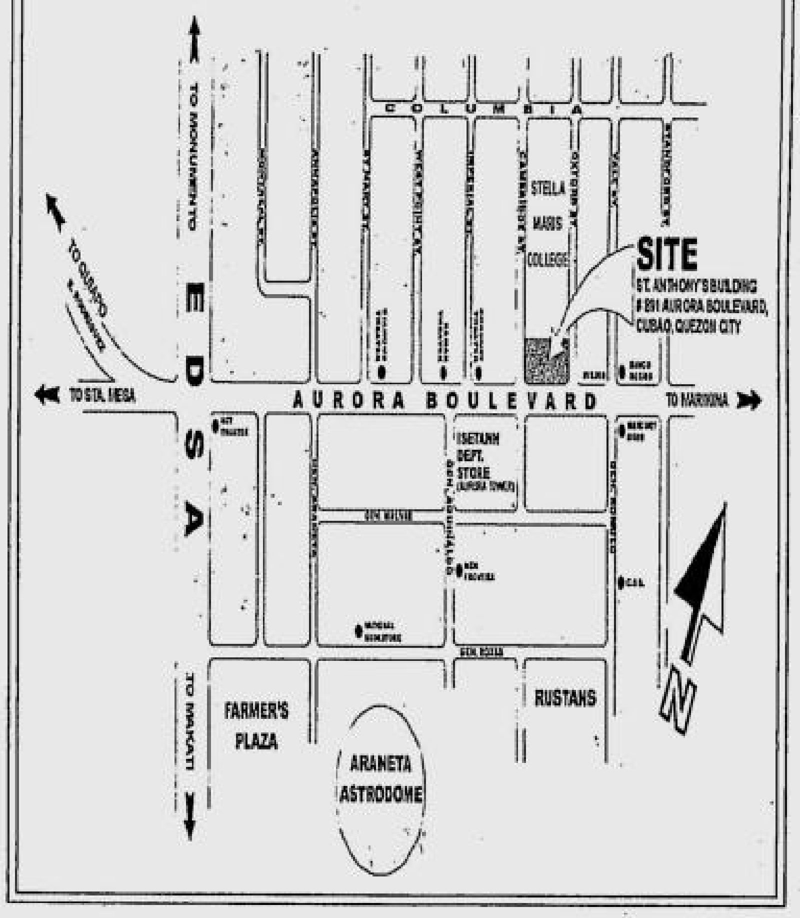

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ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES
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Telefax No. 421-2327; 911-6001 Loc. 6592
bac_secretariat_afpmp@hotmail.com

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Armed Forces of the Philippines invites interested parties to apply for eligibility and to bid for the **UPGRADE OF THREE (3) F-27 AIRCRAFTS** of the Philippine Air Force with an approved budget of **One Hundred Fifty-Three Million Two Hundred Sixteen Thousand Pesos (Php 153,216,000.00)** under the AFP Modernization Program.

Only bids from entities authorized by the appropriate civil aviation authority which make, develop, fabricate, assemble, build, or otherwise produce the F-27 aircraft shall be entertained.

Eligibility/Bid documents will be available for issuance starting **October 9, 2001** until **October 23, 2001** during office hours at the BAC Secretariat, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Capability, Materiel and Technology Department, J9, AFP, 3rd Floor, Bulwagang Mabini, Camp General Emilio Aguinaldo, Quezon City upon payment of **Fifteen Thousand Pesos (Php 15,000.00)** which is not refundable. The form of payment will be in cash or cashier's check in favor of the AFP Modernization Act Trust Fund.

A Special Power of Attorney, issued by the prospective Bidder authorizing its representative to purchase the bid documents in its behalf, shall be required before issuance of the bid documents.

A Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled on **October 23, 2001** at 2:00 PM (local time) at the Silid Panday Pira, OJ9, First Floor Bulwagang Mabini, Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City. Bidders are required to submit their queries in writing to the BAC Secretariat seven (7) days prior to the Pre-Bid Conference.

Bidders shall be allowed to inspect the F-27 Aircrafts and PAF facilities upon purchase of bid documents until the deadline of submission of the First Stage envelopes.

Deadline for submission of Eligibility/Bid Documents (First Stage) is on **November 13, 2001** at 9:00 AM (local time) after which the Opening of Bids shall immediately follow. Venue is at Silid Panday Pira, OJ9, First Floor Bulwagang Mabini, Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City.

The Armed Forces of the Philippines reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive deficiencies embodied therein without assuming any obligation whatsoever for any expenses or losses that may be incurred by the bidder in the preparation of the bid.

(Sgd.) **GREGORIO M. CAMILING, JR.**
Lieutenant General, AFP
Chairman, BAC

(PDI – Oct. 8 & 9, 2001)

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENSE
GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES
Camp General Emilio Aguinaldo, Quezon City
Telefax No. 421-2327; 911-6001 loc 6592
bac_secretariat_afpmp@hotmail.com

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Armed Forces of the Philippines invites all manufacturers to Apply for Eligibility and to Bid for the **SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF NIGHT VISION WEAPON SIGHTS (NVWS)**, with an approved budget of **Forty Nine Million Seven Hundred Sixty Six Thousand Four Hundred Pesos (Php 49,766,400.00)** under the **AFP Modernization Program.**

Only bids from entities which make, develop, fabricate, assemble, build or otherwise produce said Night Vision Weapon Sights shall be entertained.

Bid documents will be available for issuance starting **October 10, 2001** until **October 19, 2001** during office hours at the BAC Secretariat, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Capability, Materiel and Technology Development, J9, AFP, 3rd Floor, Bulwagang Mabini, Camp General Emilio Aguinaldo, Quezon City upon payment of **Five Thousand Pesos (Php 5,000.00)** which is not refundable. The form of payment will be in cash or cashier's check in favor of the AFP Modernization Act Trust Fund.

A Special Power of Attorney, issued by the prospective bidder authorizing its representative to purchase the bid documents in its behalf, shall be required before issuance of the bid documents.

A Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled on **October 19, 2001** at 1:00 PM (local time) at the Silid Panday Pira, OJ9, 1st Floor Bulwagang Mabini, Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City. Bidders are required to submit their queries in writing to the BAC Secretariat prior to the Pre-Bid Conference.

Deadline for submission of applications for eligibility statements and the bid envelopes is on **November 15, 2001** at 9:00 AM (local time) after which the Opening of Bids shall immediately follow. Venue is at Silid Panday Pira, OJ9, 1st Floor, Bulwagang Mabini, Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City.

The Armed Forces of the Philippines reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive deficiencies embodied therein without assuming any obligation whatsoever for any expenses or losses that may be incurred by the bidder in the preparation on the bid.

(Sgd.) **GREGORIO M. CAMILING JR**
Lieutenant General AFP
Chairman, BAC

(PDI–Oct. 9 & 10, 2001)

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Court of Appeals dismisses Primelink plea on SEC ruling

BY JERRY ESPLANADA

THE Court of Appeals has dismissed a petition filed by Primelink Properties and Development Corp. to reverse a Securities and Exchange Commission ruling which banned the real estate firm from selling its membership shares to the public.

Primelink, a Mandaluyong City-based firm, filed the petition three months ago where it also asked the appellate court to issue a temporary restraining order preventing the SEC from implementing its permanent cease and desist order.

In a resolution, the Court of Appeals said a Primelink representative failed to include in the company's petition the "appropriate board resolution or secretary's certificate authorizing and empowering him to institute the instant petition for and on behalf of the petitioner's corporation."

"Without such authority, the said person cannot be deemed to act under authority of the purportive petitioner and the petition cannot be given due course as it does not appear that the same was filed by the real party in interest," the court said.

The CA resolution was issued by Associate Justices Rodrigo Cosico, Ramon Barcelona and Bienvenido Reyes.

The court furnished the SEC and the Office of the Solicitor General and complainants Bayani Fontanilla III and Ramon Debuque, among others, copies of the resolution.

SEC ruling

The SEC directive against Primelink prevented the company from selling its membership shares to the public.

Primelink had sold more than P62 million worth of stocks although it was neither a licensed broker nor an authorized dealer of securities.

In a 12-page ruling, the commission said Primelink "acted as issuer and seller of securities although it is merely registered as a real estate developer, in violation of Section 28 of the Securities Regulation Code."

The SEC also ordered Primelink to pay an additional fine of P666,656 to the commission. In April 1997, Primelink was fined P50,000 by the commission.

In the same directive, the commission also directed Primelink to "refund any of its investors the total amount of their respective investments plus legal interests thereof, computed from the date of the contractual agreement" between the investors and the real estate firm.

Warning

In the SEC order, the commission also warned that "failure to comply with any of the foregoing directives shall result in the institution of contempt proceedings against (Primelink) officers and administrative proceedings for the revocation of its certificate of registration as well as criminal actions against the persons responsible for the violations of the Securities Regulations Code."

Primelink had told the SEC its joint-venture partner, Pamana Island Resort and Marina Club Inc., should be held liable for the complaints filed by project investors.

But the commission pointed out that "the only issue in this case is whether or not Primelink sold or offered securities to the public without first obtaining the necessary license."

"The pieces of evidence on file with the records of this case all squarely point to Primelink, not Pamana, as the issuer and seller of Subic Island Resort share. This finding is further reinforced by Primelink's admission in its manifestation to the commission," the SEC noted.

Pursuit

Meanwhile, Primelink said it would pursue the development of the failed P800-million Subic island project.

"We will exhaust all efforts in pursuing the development and delivery of Subic Island Residential Marina and Yacht Club," according to Ralph Lito Lopez, Primelink president and chief executive officer.

Lopez claimed he and a group of Subic Island investors were considering legal action against Pamana Island Resort and Marina Club Inc.

Lopez earlier accused Pamana as the "culprits" behind the failure of the project.

"Pamana failed to deliver the necessary documents required from their end for the registration of the membership shares of the project with the Securities and Exchange Commission," Lopez said.

The documents included "the clean title of Pamana island, a segregated title of the project site, foreshore permit and the necessary clearances and permits from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources."

Cover-up

Pamana "could not deliver the title of the island as it secretly mortgaged the island's title to Westmont Bank in September 1996. Yet the annotation of the mortgage came only in late 1998," Lopez said.

In a statement, Primelink also said Pamana had an existing cease and desist order issued by the DENR for a previous project in the island.

"Because of the these problems, our turnkey contractors, notably Marina Ventures of the USA, could not the start the construction of the project. We did everything required from our end and much more," Lopez declared.

Lopez also announced Primelink had signed a memorandum of agreement with a Kansas-based American investment group that pledged $50 million to the project. However, he did not name the US firm.

In July 1996, Primelink and Pamana agreed to jointly develop the six-hectare Pamana Island, also called Snake Island, located in the middle of Subic Bay in Zambales.

But in July 1998, Pamana "unilaterally and without basis terminated the joint-venture agreement which Primelink resisted and vehemently objected to. As a consequence, Pamana aborted and prevented the project from being developed to the prejudice and damage of investors and Primelink."

"We brought in our money, our reputation, our partners' reputations. But now Pamana is passing the blame to Primelink to cover up the real reason the project was not developed," Lopez told the INQUIRER.

A hardware shop that's different

IT'LL probably take the Americans some time to rebuild their familiar landmarks and traditional symbols of excellence in New York City, but the examples of business efficiency and service superiority that they have established have already taken root in many parts of the world.

One example is the newly opened Federal Hardware in the Philippines, which carries the fresh concept of retail merchandising in the United States. Located on a 7,200-square-meter lot on Chino Roces Avenue (formerly Pasong Tamo), Federal Hardware boasts of a spaciousness that could only mean organizational efficacy and stock completeness and diversity.

FEDERAL Hardware carries the fresh concept of retail merchandising in the US.

The store carries different lines and brands of homebuilders' needs. There are big and compact power tools, raw lumber and polished cabinets and doors, new and old reliable brands of products for the car, kitchen, roof, walls, even garden and, of course, flooring as Federal Hardware has the most complete and diversified line of ceramic tile.

Both the do-it-yourself homemaker and services contractor types can find their thing at Federal. DIY kits of all imaginable applications and uses are on the racks, at the same time that professional products for plumbing, electricity, painting, etc. abound

Yet, despite all these number and diversity of offerings, Federal Hardware can still offer customers the comfort and services that have been customarily attributed to first-world, American establishments only. Fully air-conditioned, the store is organized into well-defined sections, each one located at a convenient, precise distance from the others. Spaciousness, within the store is a trademark of Federal, as it also offers ample parking slots outside.

Brightly lit and meticulously clean, the store is more like a high-class supermarket than the well-stocked depot of homebuilders' needs that it is. It is probably a supermarket in reality—a supermarket for hardware items.

A unique service is given by a number of Federal Hardware's sales force. Customer who have questions or are undecided about the products they seek may be given pointers on which ones are most applicable to their needs—or are more economical than the traditional items they have set out to purchase. More than profit, or volume of sales, Federal Hardware is interested in a long-standing, mutually satisfying relationship with its customers.

Their reward perhaps lies in their easily success in their business. Federal Hardware expects to have eight additional outlets all over the Philippines.

NEW CHOICE FOR SIDEWALKS

With its beauty, strength and durability, the Vazpave Concrete Paver, a product of Vasquez Commodities (Vazcom), is now preferred by property developers and homeowners over the traditional cemented walkways. The business park project of Amvel Land Development Corp. in Sucat, Parañague, used Vazpave's Wavy Concrete Pavers for the sidewalks. The interlocking feature of the wavy design plus the standard built-in full spacers of Vaspave make the pavers more rigid and stable.

Kent signs up as exhibitor at Philconstruct

KENT Industrial Corp. recently signed up as exhibitor at the Philconstruct 2001, Southeast Asia's premier construction and building exhibition, slated at the World Trade Center Metro Manila on Nov. 15 to 18.

The participation contract was signed by Vivian Cua-Gruba, Kent assistant vice president and Ruby C. Ocfemia, project manager of Convex International.

Some 400 companies from 30 nations are showcased in this event which brings together leading suppliers and manufacturer of construction materials, products and services.

Philconstruct 2001 also provides networking opportunities.

The Orchard termite free

TOM Clemente III, general manager of Orchard Golf and Country Club, talks about mangoes, exterminating termites and golf from the second-story viewing deck of the country's biggest golf clubhouse. The verdant vista is breathtaking; the wind, strong and unpolluted; out there, time seems to stop.

The Orchard Golf and Country Club in Dasmariñas, Cavite, used to be a mango orchard planted some 65 years ago by Dean Conrado Benitez Sr. It opened for play in January 1995 and hosted the Johnnie Walker Classic, a major event on the European PGA Tour that drew such golfing greats as Fred Couples, Greg Norman, Colin Montgomery, Ian Woosnam and Vijay Singh. "It was the first major tournament that put us on the map—not only Orchard but the country as well," Clemente enthuses.

This journalism graduate turned Orchard GM shares that the Sta. Lucia-developed golf club is a self-designated bird and wildlife sanctuary, its 140 hectares teeming with indigenous flora and fauna. The fairways were designed to embrace the land's natural form.

Attractive to termites

This is all well, except that termites have been found to have a special liking for mango trees. Ela Dillague, product manager of DowAgro Sciences-Sentricon Philippines, reveals that experts confirm that mango trees are particularly attractive to Philippine milk termites, the most voracious of *anay* species.

The architecture of the clubhouse was inspired by the country's Spanish colonial history and the fixtures incorporate traditional Filipino designs, utilizing molave and narra wood. For many years, a pest control company would come to the Orchard Clubhouse three times a week to flush out the pernicious critters, to no avail. Traditional "spray and pray" techniques were employed until the Orchard management got hold of Didi Gonzalez, golf aficionado and president of Pest Control Services Inc. Gonzalez was schooled in UP Los Baños (Major in Entomology) and earned his Master of Management Degree at the Asian Institute of Management. He designed and conducted certificate courses currently being used in the Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority (FPA) licensing and accreditation seminars.

Gonzalez and his technicians installed Sentricon Termite Colony Elimination System, a technology developed by US-based leader DowAgro Sciences, in the 15,000-hectare clubhouse. Sentricon takes advantage of natural termite behavior and acts like an early warning device and a treatment method. The system, Gonzalez states, is perfect for the task since it is effective, odorless and nondisruptive.

And in keeping with the philosophy of the Sta. Lucia group, Sentricon is environment-friendly and safe. Hexaflumuron, the active ingredient in Sentricon, is specific to termites, which means that nontarget organisms will not be affected. This bait material (that stops the molting process, causing termites to die) is the first pest control product in the US to receive "fast track" registration from the Environmental Protection Agency in the new "Reduced Pesticide Risk" category. Last year, Sentricon was awarded the US Presidential Green Chemistry Award for its commitment to keep the environment safe.

Ultimate family destination

Termite-free, club member-friendly, nature-loving and managed by a hardworking all-Filipino team, the Orchard Golf and Country Club is poised to become "the ultimate family destination." The only golf club in the country with an in-house theater, the Orchard recently acquired a multimedia projector to make the cinema experience more enjoyable. Club members are properly pampered at the Mango Tree Salon, offering a combination of Swedish massage, reflexology and shiatsu for only P350 an hour. The Orchard has vast function rooms that, Clemente quips, make it the unofficial "graduation/wedding venue of Cavite." A former local government official hosted a gathering of 12,000 guests at the golf club.

Providing employment (regular and contractual) to some 900 Caviteños, the Orchard has a 12-lane bowling center, a billiard hall, tennis, badminton, table tennis and squash courts, a basketball gym, swimming pool, a fully equipped kiddies playroom, food and beverage outlets and a host of amenities that will surely make the trip to Cavite well worth it, even for nongolfers.

Cityland Pasong Tamo Tower 96% complete

ANOTHER Cityland Development Corp.'s worthwhile investment is now 96 percent complete.

Cityland Pasong Tamo Tower is a 38-floor office, commercial and residential condominium strategically located across Don Bosco Technical Institute on Pasong Tamo Street, Makati City.

Its prime location ensures easy access to major thoroughfares: Pasay Road, Edsa, South Superhighway and Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue. Within the vicinity are leading business establishments, recreational centers, schools, churches and hospitals.

Cityland Pasong Tamo Tower is provided with state-of-the-art amenities to ensure convenience and prestige to the practical investor and entrepreneur. Office, commercial and residential units are available with a choice of studio, one, two or three bedrooms. These are payable in cash or easy installment terms up to 10 years.

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REAL ESTATE

CESAR D. MANGAWANG, Editor

Alternative to 'weak' plywood offered

BY TESSA R. SALAZAR

THERE is now an alternative to plywood in the local construction market, and it has qualities that traditional plywood lacks. At least, that's the selling point of its manufacturer.

Proponents of this new construction technology have predicted that Filipino homeowners are bound to find light and easy to install ceilings that won't rot, warp or peel off for several years. They would look for ceilings that are fireproof but affordable for the average Filipino family. They would prefer material that would look good just as it is without being painted on.

The weaknesses of plywood are what one manufacturer saw as opportunities to push for new construction material—lightweight fiber cement board specially made for internal ceiling applications.

Investment

John Baas, president of James Hardie Philippines, recently launched his company's lighweight fiber cement for ceilings. The company claims its fiber cement board is asbestos-free, termite-proof and lightweight.

James Hardie Philippines initially invested $70 million on its plant in Cabuyao, Laguna, to manufacture millions of sheets of its Hardiflex products. Baas said the country is a largely untapped market for fiber cement. Apparently, Filipinos are waking up and smelling the rotting plywood.

Said Baas: "People are tired of seeing plywood rot. We saw the opportunity and we're replacing the failing plywood in the market."

The problems in most Filipino homes involve ceiling materials that warp easily, yield quickly to wear and tear, and are vulnerable to termite attacks.

The Filipino finds himself constantly replacing his ceiling, observed Baas.

He stressed that the raw materials used to make light fiber cement are wood fibers sourced from New Zealand or the United States. These wood fibers come from replenishable forest, a managed forest wherein only 10 percent of its trees are used per year, giving time for the forest to replace or "rejuvenate" itself. The other major ingredients, like cement and sand, are sourced locally.

ILLUSTRATION: ALBERTRODRIGUEZ

About 70 percent of James Hardie Philippines' products are sold locally, while 30 percent are exported.

Business still growing

Baas said that even with the glut in the construction industry, business is still growing because people value a solid ceiling over their heads.

"Last year the business grew about 40 percent. This year we'll grow about 15 percent. The market shrunk. It is becoming smaller but we're still growing."

James Hardie Philippine plant in Laguna is the only plant the company has in Asia where it plans to expand. The Philippines would be its base for launching other plants. Over 30 percent of its business is exported into Taiwan, Korea, Hong Kong, Spain, Israel, Turkey and the Middle East.

Saddle & Clubs Leisure Park on track

THE CONSTRUCTION of residential and racetrack portions of the Saddle & Clubs Leisure Park is ongoing. The development is a unique integration of residential, commercial, sports and recreational estate planned in the highest standards of mixed-used community living. It is located in the tri-boundary area of the municipalities of Naic, Tanza and Trece Martirez in Cavite.

Sta. Lucia Realty and Development Inc. and its partners—Philippine Racing Philippine Inc., Azkcon Construction and Development Inc., Ebecom Holdings Inc., Harmony Homes Inc., Megatop Realty and lawyer Diogenes Bartolome—have consulted architectural experts to help them with the structural plans of the Saddle & Clubs Leisure Park.

Froelich, Kow, Gong Architects Inc. handled the design and planning of the 70-hectare racetrack and support facilities. Hellmut, Obata, Kassabaum Inc. master-planned the 176-hectare residential estate, which is subdivided into four unique villages—Del Mar Promenade, Melbourne Grove, Chantilly Park and Fleminton Fields. It also identified distinct zoning for the 117-hectare commercial estate that accommodates business establishments including supermarkets, movie houses, convenience stores, utility service station, restaurants, office and school buildings.

Golfing legend Arnold Palmer and architect Ronald Fream of Golfplan Inc. designed the two 18-hole championship courses for the development of 576-hectare Saddle & Clubs Leisure Park. Marketing network firm Royale Homes Marketing Corp. is leading the group in putting Saddle & Clubs on the market and aggressively establishing it as a sensible investment these days.

The main attraction of the development is the racetrack and support facility, which will soon be the new address of the Sta. Ana Park. The 1,600-meter sand track is already 98-percent complete. The track is 25 meters wide and has an inside turning radius of 128 meters. The homestretch between turns is 400 meters long and the distance from the finish line is 100 meters. The track will be lighted for night racing.

A tunnel is also constructed for access to the infield area. The infield will have lakes that are used for irrigation purposes. There will be approximately 1,000 stables with tack and feed rooms. The grandstand will have a multilevel seating structure to accommodate a large number of spectators.

Business, residential units available at Central Park

CROWN Asia has been receiving a steady stream of inquiries and reservations on their latest project, a residential and commercial development called Central Park, in the rapidly developing area of Molino in Bacoor, Cavite.

Central Park is perfect for those looking for a home that can double as a place for your own business. The 115 homes and lots for Central Park are located on the main road of Springville City, one of the major developing areas in southern Metro Manila that has its own amenities such as security, water, electric and telephone utilities and accessibility, making it an ideal neighbor for Central Park.

Three house models will be available: Hillary with a floor area of 58 square meters; Jacqueline with an 80-sq.-m living area; and Chelsea also at 58 sq. m.

Practical investment

Central Park's homes are built to exacting standards, using the highest quality materials and employing the best skilled carpenters and craftsmen, that has become the trademark of any Crown Asia developed subdivision.

"What also makes this a very practical investment is that RCBC, our partner bank, is offering terms of up to 20 years at very reasonable interest rates," said Crown Asia chief operating officer Rosario H. Javier.

Nearly completed is the Daang Hari Road, designed as a wide cemented access road from Cavite to Central Park that will allow residents a faster route to nearby commercial and business centers.

Accessibility

Javier said at Central Park's accessibility—through Daang Hari Road; from the South Superhighway through the Filinvest exit; and by way of Springville City's main road—together with its location near the clubhouse is a virtual assurance of a steady stream of customers for any business that will be put up by residents.

Central Park is very close to prime commercial centers such as the SM Southmall in Las Piñas, the Alabang Town Center and the Festival Mall in the Filinvest Corporate City.

Javier said the government has also been speeding up the completion of several other roads to and from Molino and the nearby towns and cities that would drastically cut travel time for residents.

Creba-HUDCC national confab set Oct. 18-20 in Bacolod City

THE CHAMBER of Real Estate and Builders Associations (Creba) and the Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council will hold a joint CREBA-HUDCC national convention at the Bacolod Convention Hotel in Bacolod City on Oct. 18-20.

This was announced by Creba national president Charlie V. Gorayeb and Secretary Michael T. Defensor, presidential adviser on housing and HUDCC chair. The convention theme is "Housing: Key to National Healing and Economic Recovery." It is the prelude to the Housing Summit to be convened by President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo on Oct. 30-31 in Manila. Purita R. Soliven, Creba vice president for internal affairs, is the overall national convention chairperson.

Forums

During the housing policy forum, Defensor will talk on "Housing: Policy and Directions." Rep. Prospero C. Nograles (first district, Davao City), chair of the House committee on housing, and Sen. Francisco K. Pangilinan, chair of the Senate committee on housing, resettlement and urban development, will discuss the priority legislative housing agenda. Rep. Eduardo C. Zialcita (lone district, Parañaque City) will talk on House Bill 1300, known as the Omnibus Housing and Urban Development Act, which he principally authored.

A property development forum will be held with Creba director Techie P. Bautista as overall coordinator. Speakers on the issue "How Developers are Coping with the Crisis" are lawyer Anthony Charlemagne Yu, president, Empire East Land Holdings Inc.; Ricardo Pascua, president, Metro Pacific Corp.; Andrew Gotianun, president, Filinvest Development Corp.; Frederick D. Go, chief operating officer and second VP, Robinsons Land Corp; Demetrio I. Posadas, chair, Fortune Star Construction and Development Corp; Rafael A. Pobladot, president, Satellite Housing Contractors and Development Corp.

Donald G. Dee, president of the Employers Confederation of the Philippines, will talk on corporate housing relative to employee productivity, while Wilhelm G. Ortaliz, deputy director-general of the Philippine Economic Zone Authority, will discuss "Real Estate Development Opportunities in the Eco Zones."

The other speakers are Lt. Gen. Jose M. Calimlim, chair, AFP Housing Board, the AFP housing program; Ernesto S. Pangan, Education Undersecretary for finance and administration, teachers' housing program; architect Prosperidad A. Luis, national president, United Architects of the Philippines, "Innovative Housing Designs"; and Engineer Isidro A. Consunji, president, Philippine Contractors Association, "Infrastructure Development in Support of Housing."

Workshops

Housing delivery workshops will be conducted with Rosemarie C. Basa, Creba public relations officer; and lawyer Cesilo A. Adam, chair, Creba Cagayan de Oro chapter, as overall coordinators.

Presenters on housing regulations and requirements are Commissioner-CEO Romulo Q. Fabul of Housing and Land Use Regulatory Board, Agrarian Reform Secretary Hernando A. Braganza and administrator Senecio O. Ortile, Land Registration Authority.

The workshop on housing targets and production will have general manager Edgardo D. Pamintuan of National Housing Authority, president Angelico T. Salud, National Home Mortgage Finance Corp.; and president Gonzalo Bongolan, Home Guaranty Corp. Demetrio L. Posadas, Creba VP-chapter affairs, as facilitator and engineer Manuel T. Ramos, as rapporteur. Presenters at the housing finance workshop are president-CEO Manuel C. Crisostomo of Pag-Ibig Fund, president Corazon dela Paz of Social Security System, vice president Teresita S. Liwanag of Development Bank of the Philippines, SVP Rodrigo B. Supena of Land Bank of the Philippines, president Placido Mapa of Bankers Association of the Philippines, and Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas Governor Rafael B. Buenaventura. Choy L. Alas and Florante C. Ofrecio of Creba will be facilitator and rapporteur, respectively.

Jaime C. Millan, chair of the Creba Youth, will preside the signing of agreements under the Creba Business Matching program. It is aimed at matching the resources, services and needs of Creba members with those of others through mutually beneficial complementation.

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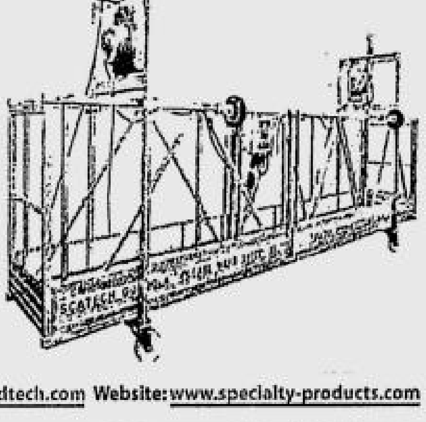

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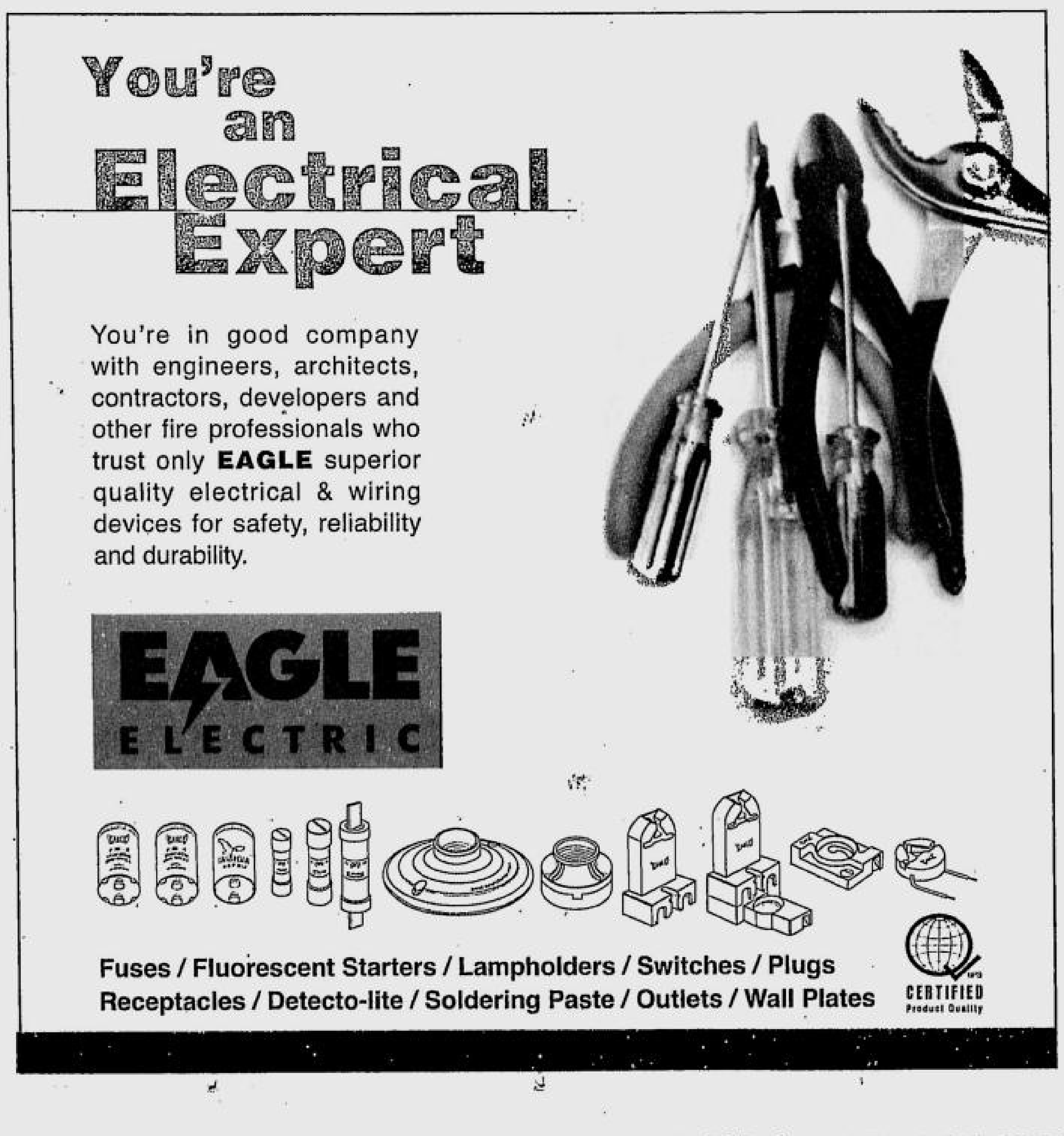
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Fitness

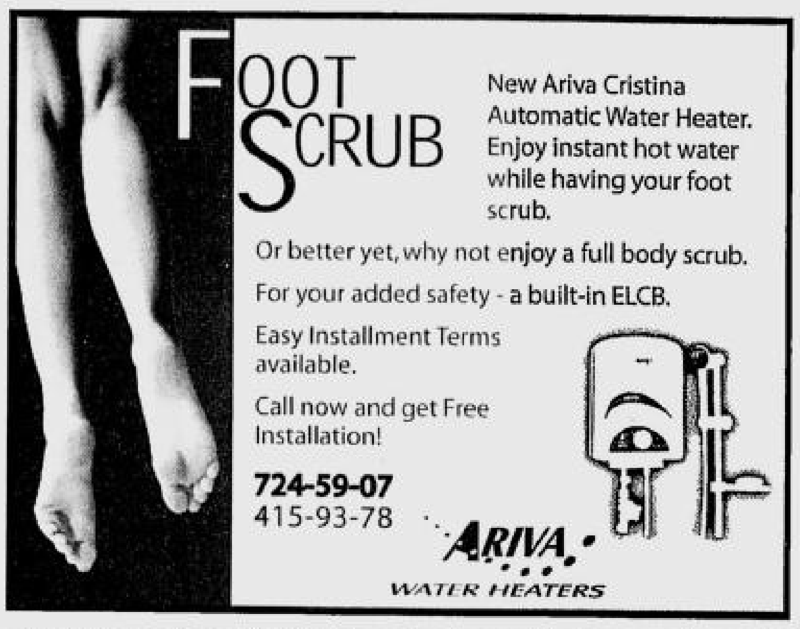
Their search for the best massage possible this side of mortality led them to the so-called 'best spa in the world,' Chiva-Som, which has been credited with changing lives

Trip to bliss

By Clinton Palanca

IT'S been almost a month since we returned from Chiva-Som, and the girl with whom I had gone decided that it was time for a follow-up massage at our usual favorite,

TRIP/ p.C2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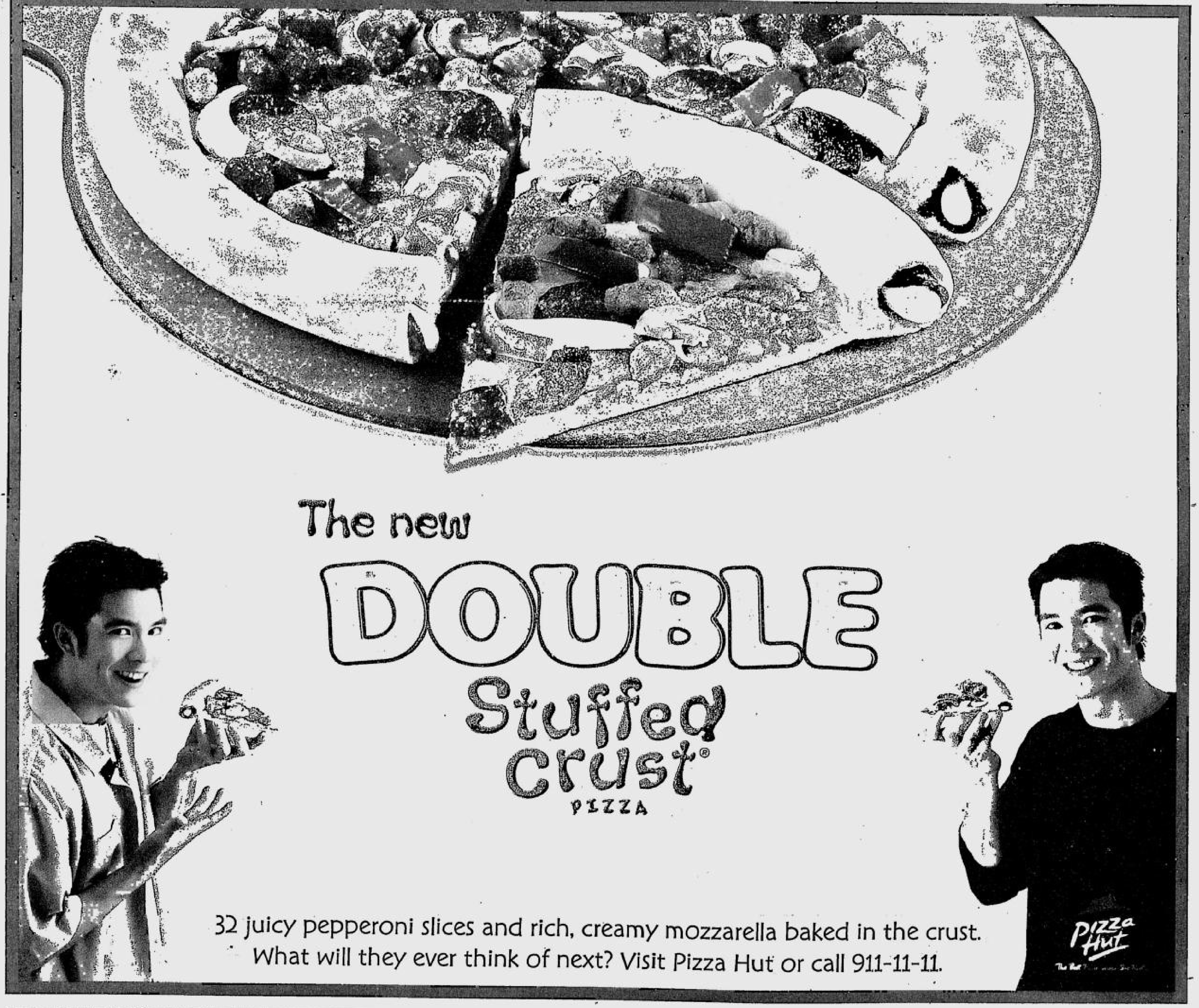
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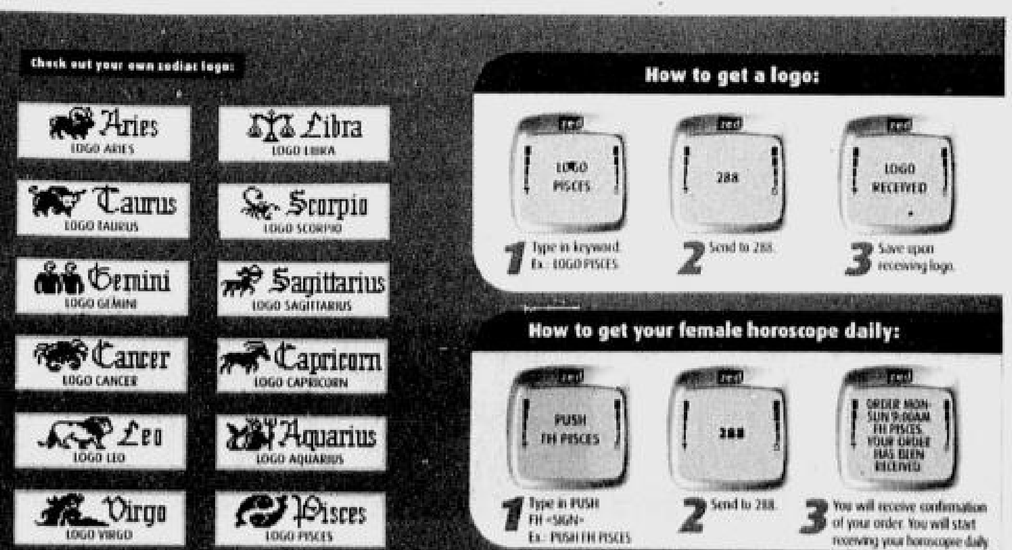
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Trip to bliss

(From page C1)

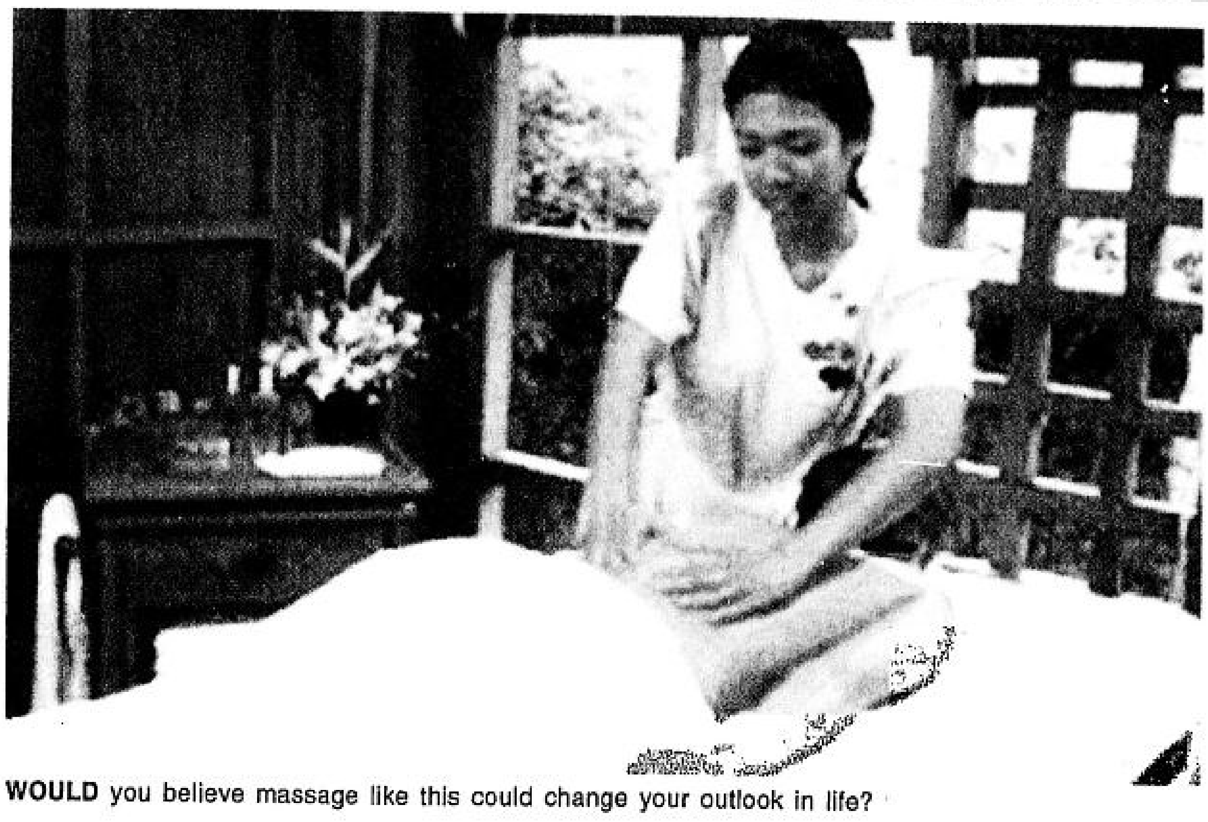
the South Spa on Pasong Tamo. The only problem was that one of my arms was immobilized in a cast. So I had to settle for a scalp-and-foot massage, while she went through the works, emerging an hour later in a state of buffed and rosy-cheeked squishiness. I was highly jealous.

The massage at the South Spa is one of the best in the world, and I have tried out massages in Bangkok (the Orient Hotel spa is posher, but the best is if you can get a massage room on the top floor of the Le Royal Meridien, which faces west, and go at dusk to watch the sun set as the city bursts into life and a riotous razzle-dazzle of twinkling lights), in Chiang Mai (200 baht for a foot reflexology massage, followed by being twisted into a pretzel afterward), in Istanbul (huge burly Turks attacking you with pummeling fists on a marble slab), in Paris (at the Ritz hotel, where the blonde masseuse was so lovely that I had to keep a towel over my waist to hide my excitement); I am fairly confident of the breadth of my comparative sample group.

This girl and I are on a mission to find the best massage it is possible to have this side of mortality, and our search has led us to some highly dubious places, where the intentions of the masseuse seem not to be relaxation but stimulation. When we heard about the so-called "best spa in the world," Chiva-Som in south Thailand, we didn't hesitate. Chiva-Som has been credited with changing lives: suicidal depressives emerging with a new outlook on life, dramatic weight loss, quitting smoking; in fact, just about everything that would make one a happy, healthy person. I wanted to wean myself off my addiction to tranquilizers for insomnia; she wanted to lose weight and become a less selfish person. So off we went for the Mother of All Massages, the Orient Bliss package that included daily meals, floatation sessions and various massages, including the enticingly titled (for women) "G5 Vibro-Massage."

Her sister shared a room with her, leaving me with a single room, which I baptized in my usual method: leaping from bed to bed to test the springs, and then making a royal mess of the bathroom. We had arrived far too late for any massage treatments that day, so we went to bed in a state of pleasant anticipation of the treats to come. In fact, I was so excited about my forthcoming relaxation that I had to take two Valium and a Dormicum to fall asleep.

We wandered down to breakfast in T-shirt and shorts. The "guidelines" of the spa-resort had been explained to us the night before: We were encouraged to shuffle about in robes and slippers, rather like Hugh Hefner; but any similarities to the Playboy Mansion ended there. No smoking. No loud noises. No alcohol. No e-mail. No cell phones. We stared in dismay at the beautifully arranged breakfast buffet, which was an artful tableau of fruit, cereals, organic bread, with calorie-count labels on everything. There was only nonfat milk for the coffee and the cereals (I normally love Weetabix and shredded wheat, but then I have it with sweetened cream instead of milk). The only sane thing that one could ask for was butter. I slathered great blocks of it over everything, even the fruit, and tried to reconstitute it into the nonfat milk, where it should have been in the first place.



WOULD you believe massage like this could change your outlook in life?

The first thing everyone who checks into the spa does is have a consultation with a "wellness specialist," who asks you what you are there for, and then checks your pulse, presumably to make sure you are alive, since it would be highly embarrassing to allow admittance of any dead individuals into the "Haven of Life," as the place styles itself. I discussed my sleeping-pill problem briefly; then, as the woman seemed unimpressed, began to make up all sorts of ailments: constipation, asthma attacks, epileptic seizures brought on by an irrational phobia of live roosters. Finally, I confessed that all I wanted was a lot of really good massages and to come away with a spring in my step. So we began scheduling tests, treatments and massages. I signed up for the floatation, an iridology exam, a blood test and two massages a day. My schedule looked busier than my daily planner back home, which usually consisted of only a few items: "Buy film. Pick up dry cleaning. Dinner date. Marinate chicken."

FLOATATION chamber, pure ecstacy

I hardly saw the women for the rest of the day; they had their own schedules of massages, yoga, Pilates and the like. Although when I passed my friend in the hall she hissed: "The G5 Vibro is terrific!" I, meanwhile, was on my way to a bizarre treatment, which involved my standing against a wall, while a woman trained a jet of high-pressure water at me. After the initial shock, it was actually quite pleasant. She turned off the jet and called out: "Turn around, please." She looked at me appraisingly for a few moments, like a meat inspector grading haunches, then said: "Cover genitals, please. To protect." Then the blast began again. For all those veterans of the First Quarter Storm who tell me that I don't know what it was like to be hosed at Mendiola, I can retort: "Bet you didn't do it naked."

The floatation chamber was pure ecstasy. A solution of liquid just the right density to support the body, under a dome of dimmed lights or, if you were brave enough, total darkness. Some have described it as a return to the womb, or feeling as though one is floating in space. After more than an hour of this, hallucinations have been known to appear. I waited hopefully for lined-up rows of pink elephants or pinwheels; instead, I began to think longingly about dinner.

Which brings us to the main problem about Chiva-Som: the food. Or rather, the fact that there isn't very much of it. The menu is a triumph of mouthwatering prose descriptions which, as Wittgenstein might say, had no correspondence to reality. Don't get me wrong: Everything was absolutely fresh and cooked to perfection; except that everything lacked taste, which I think is a rather important aspect of food. You couldn't ask for salt (or rather you could, but would be denied the request), not even fish sauce. It was a pity, because the gleaming green beans would have been heavenly with just a bit of butter to coat them (lipid, or fat molecules, carry flavor) and a sprinkling of *fleur de sel*. (I considered going to the beach and bringing in a pan of seawater to evaporate in the dresser.) There was a little meat, mostly chicken and fish, plenty of vegetables and brown rice. After dinner my friend invited me to her room; at first I thought it might be for sex, but what she had to offer was far, far better. Chocolate bars! Doritos! Cheese puffs! Instant noodle packets! It was like one of those scenes in movies set during the war, when the family goes into raptures over the sight of real food: "Butter cake! Eggs! Lemons! Oh, Nigel, however on earth did you manage to get these?"

If you're the type who enjoys playing with water, you can spend entire afternoons frolicking in the indoor and outdoor pools, the steam room with a domed ceiling pierced with diamond-shaped holes through which light filtered through (a replica of the Turkish hammams), the sauna, the cascades of icy-cold waterfalls you're supposed to plunge into after the steam bath. They have a lot more strange treatments (soakings, mud wraps, milk baths) that I wasn't able to try. For those so inclined, they have plenty of yoga, meditation, tennis courts and workout rooms with every modern improvement they have developed on that seminal invention, the medieval torture rack. The place is undeniably beautiful (it was built at the cost of $26 million), with lotus-flower arrangements, candles, scent-warmers, at every turn. Oh, and I did eventually have my own G5 Vibro-Massage, but I'm not telling you what goes on there.

I cannot describe the bliss of returning to Bangkok and stuffing myself with fish *maw* soup, pad Thai noodles, fiery green pork curry and toothache-sweet water chestnuts in coconut milk at a sidewalk food stall, and then having real coffee with cream sent up to my room at the hotel afterward. I felt the rush of caffeine in my brain and the pulse of cholesterol through my blood and the wash of nicotine in my lungs, and felt a great feeling of wellness. Make no mistake: I enjoyed my experience thoroughly and would do it again in a snap, armed with provisions. But as I popped one of Sukhothai's divine chocolate truffles into my mouth and let it ooze over my palate as it melted, I decided that good health was a nice place to visit, but not one where I'd want to live.

Gretchen Barretto to grace grand hair and fashion show

FILM actress Gretchen Barretto, the latest Pantene model, will bring across the message of empowering women when she glides down the ramp in Procter & Gamble's grand launch party for the latest Pantene Pro-V collection at Glorietta 4 Park on Oct. 12.

Barretto will don an Inno Sotto creation at the show's finale as she and other celebrity models help unveil the new Pantene collection via a fashion show titled "www. Mane Change: What Women Want."

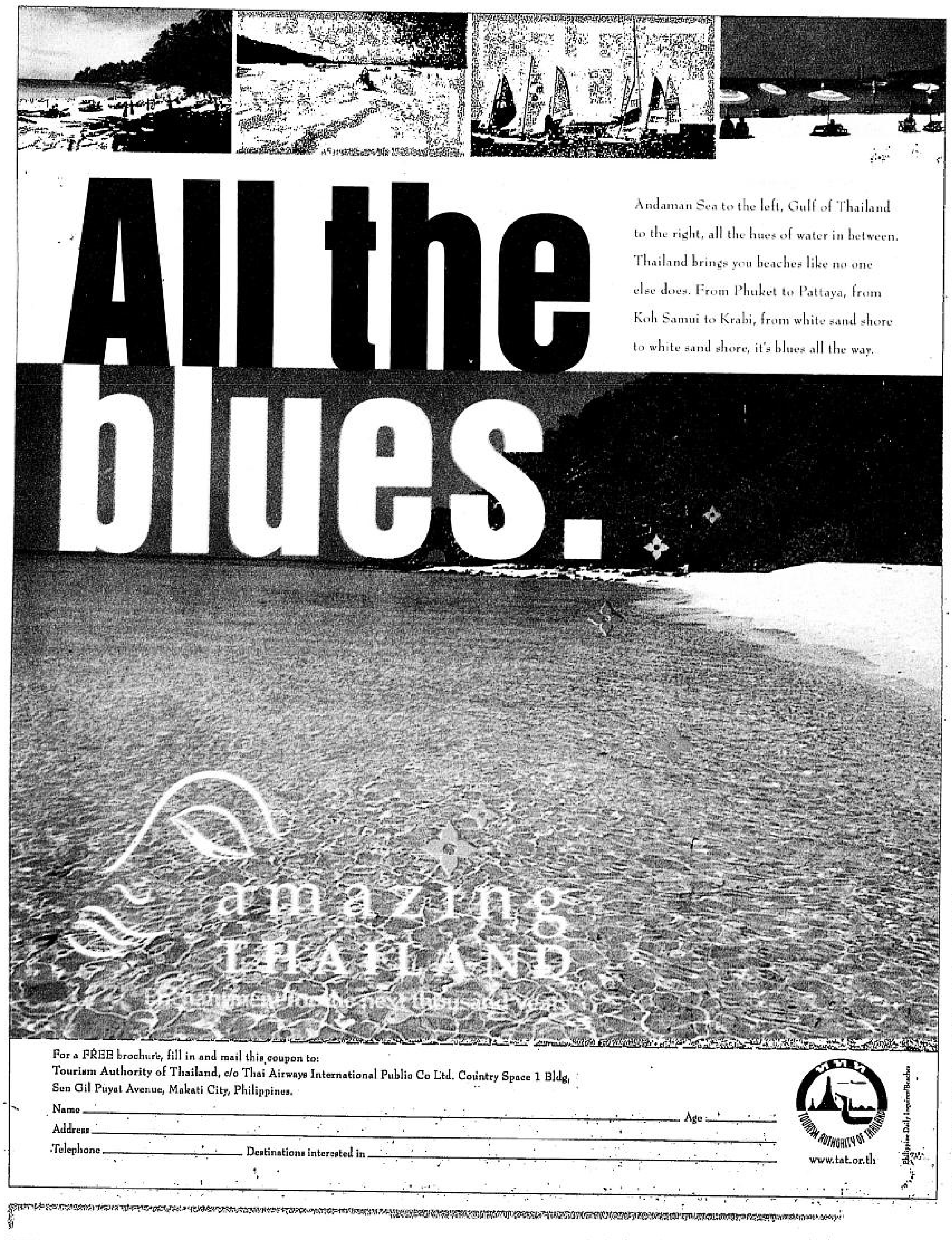
The show, which will be hosted by newscaster Pia Guanio, will be participated in by some of the country's top models, including Elite Model winner Lucia Santiago, to characterize each of the Pantene variants.

Gretchen herself is the epitome of an empowered woman—smart, successful, strong and beautiful. She turned her back on a lucrative movie career to become a full-time mom that she always wanted to be.

Also to be presented during the show are video clips of consumers' testimonies about their dissatisfaction with their hair, latest hairstyles and trends, and footages on how Pantene can help consumers, especially women, correctly choose the end look they want.

The event will also showcase interactive booths for the enjoyment of guests before the show begins.

Likewise, P&G will set up a hair consultation booth for free hair-care and hair-type consultations with famous hairstylists; a fashion consultation booth for free fashion and styling tips from fashion experts; a radio station booth for free on-air announcements; and a Canon Digital Photo station for a free souvenir photo.



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Sexual molestations by spirits

INNER AWARENESS

Jaime T. Licauco

A WOMAN wrote about a friend of hers who is being followed and sexually molested by unseen spirits.

"My friend has been followed by spirit or warlocks since 1997. Last year, the entity touched her feet, but this year it has gotten worse. She has experienced being touched in her private parts almost every night. Her bed creaks with the presence of this unseen being.

"I believe her story because I've read about such things. I also felt goosebumps when she related to me her experience just tonight.

"One morning she woke up and found feathers on her slippers, although she never used them outside. There seems to be a bird following her. We know that evil can take many forms.

"Her friends see a black shadow of a being following her. Her cousin has confirmed this.

"She has not revealed this to anyone because she's afraid of what they may think of her. She does not doubt her sanity. She is very objective about the whole thing. In fact she has what you may call a lawyer's mind.

"Please help her find somebody who can get rid of those evil entities."

This is not the first time I've come across a woman who is being sexually molested by evil spirits. Technically called an "incubus," this type of spirit loves to stalk women, touch their private parts and even have sexual intercourse with them.

It is really quite incredible how an invisible non-physical spirit can physically and sexually abuse a living human being. But there are many fully documented cases of incubi sexually molesting women—including nuns—which were recorded by Church historians. Such incidents were particularly common during the Middle Ages.

I remember a case where evil spirits sexually abused a whole convent full of nuns in Chartres, France. This proves that prayers and faith in God alone are not enough to prevent such things from happening to a woman.

The first thing anyone should do here is identify the type of spirits doing the molestation. Usually this is done by a discarnate spirit who was so obsessed with carnal desires when he died that he still carried his evil ways in the after life. He attacks women who are susceptible.

It is not true that only single and lonely women who sleep alone are the ones subject to such incubus attacks. I've known cases of married women sleeping with their husbands in bed who have also been sexually abused by these entities.

This is the first time, however, that I've heard of a bird following a victim and feathers materializing out of nowhere. It is possible such incidents are connected with the incubus.

A woman being attacked by an incubus should strengthen her will-power and should fight such molestations with all her strength. She should also have strong faith in God and should call on her spirit guides for protection. An exorcist who is also a clairvoyant can help get rid of the incubus.

A 16-year-old student who is writing a term paper about "paranormal entities" asks the following questions:

1. What are paranormal entities? What is their purpose? What do they bring to a place? Do they affect the people living there? In what way? Are all places inhabited by these entities?

2. What kind of people sees these entities? For example, a teacher in our school saw a man walking, then he disappeared suddenly. Others did not see him.

3. How do we protect ourselves from such entities? Do they have to be driven away?

Here are my replies:

1. There are many different types of entities that may inhabit a place. They can be elementals or nature spirits, like dwarves and fairies. Or they may be your dead relatives paying you a visit. Or they may be astral bodies of living human beings known to you. Or they may be discarnate beings or earthbound spirits of the dead wondering around aimlessly. These entities are not necessarily bad or evil.

Most places are inhabited by unseen creatures, but usually they are harmless. If they are negative entities, then they can bring bad luck, sickness, or disharmony in a place.

2. Spirits or supernatural beings can be seen only through clairvoyant vision. People whose "third eye" is open can see them. Most of us can sense the presence of spirits although we can't see them. They are usually seen during relaxed moments when we are not thinking or conscious of them.

3. Not all types of entities need to be driven away from a place. Many of them are harmless and may even help protect the place from evil intents. For example, the presence of good dwarves brings good luck and protection to a home.

Evil spirits, of course, need to be driven away. Earthbound spirits need to be elevated or be lightened so that they leave the place. They can be persuaded to seek the light and elevate themselves. Prayers can help these disturbed souls.

E-mail the author at jlicauco@geocities.com. Visit www.angelfire.com/journal/licauco.

Lecture on new trends in cancer management

ST. Luke's Department of Nuclear Medicine physician, Dr. Jonas Y. Santiago, lectures on the use of Positron Emission Tomography (PET) in oncology at the Philippine Society of Oncologists Inc.'s 17th annual convention on Oct. 12 and 13, 1:30 p.m., at the Edsa Shangri-La Hotel in Mandaluyong City.

The two-day affair focuses on the current trends in cancer management, where the PET scan is proving itself to be an extremely valuable diagnostic tool. Positron Emission Tomography can often detect evidence of cancer and its spread before any other test, making it important in the diagnosis as well as the determination of the cancer stage, and in determining early recurrence of the disease and its response to therapy.

St. Luke's Positron Emission Tomography (PET) Center, the first in the country and in Southeast Asia, is in the process of installation and will be operational before the end of the year. It will be headed by Dr. Santiago, who trained in Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York, USA.

Arthritis consultations, menopause forum slated at SLMC

ST. Luke's Medical Center actively participates in the celebration of World Arthritis Day by launching the "Rayuma Klinik" with guest speaker Sen. Noli de Castro on Oct. 11, 11 a.m.-5 p.m., at the 14/F Auditorium of St. Luke's Cathedral Heights Building Complex in Quezon City. This was announced by rheumatology section chief Dr. Sandra V. Navarra, who also added that the Rayuma Klinik will be open for free consultation at the St. Luke's Out-Patient Care, 1-3 p.m. every Thursday.

St. Luke's rheumatologist, Dr. Perry Tan, will also lecture on *rayuma* (arthritis) during the launch to increase awareness of it as a global healthcare problem.

St. Luke's recognizes the need of the world's *rayuma* sufferers to have access to timely diagnosis, proper treatment and education to help control their condition. Call St. Luke's at 723-0301, local 5148.

Meanwhile, in line with its 4th year anniversary, St. Luke's Menopause Clinic holds a layman's forum entitled "Together Forever III: Lifestyle Modification During the Golden Years," on Oct. 18, 8 a.m.-12 nn, at the St. Luke's 2/F Conference Room. The panel of speakers includes Memory Center head Dr. Socorro Martinez, psychiatrist Dr. Theodore Abas and dermatologist Dr. Grace Carole Beltran. Call St. Luke's Menopause Clinic at 723-0301, local 7286.

Breast cancer forum

OCTOBER is breast cancer awareness month around the world and in observance, Liz Claiborne will host a forum on Oct. 19. This will be headed by Dr. Diana Cua, breast surgeon and founder of Bosom Buddies Support Group, and Dr. Angela Crisostomo, mammographer. Together with them are breast cancer patients (members of Bosom Buddies Support Group) who will share their experiences and provide firsthand information about the disease.

The program will start at 4 p.m. inside the Liz Claiborne shop at the Shangri-La Plaza Mall. Giveaways will include the book "I Can Serve" by breast cancer survivor Kara Alikpala. Refreshments will be served.

Also, on Oct. 13-31, Liz Claiborne, with the Cua Bang Foundation, the Bosom Buddies Support Group and the I Can Serve Foundation, will be selling certain items at special prices. Proceeds will be donated to finance various activities.

Call 635-4391 or 6336434. Liz Claiborne is located at the 3/F, Shangri-La Plaza Mall, Edsa.

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Avoid boredom and injury with cross training

WELL AND GOOD

Tina Aboitiz Juan

Spice up your good old gym routine with cycling on a stationary bike, lifting weights and stretching

ILLUSTRATION: STEPH BRAVO

BOREDOM and injury are some of the reasons people quit exercising. Cross training is one of the ways to avoid this. It prevents boredom because you don't do the same thing week after week and it prevents injury because it distributes the stress of exercise among various joints and muscles.

The technical definition of cross training is doing different exercises on different days or on the same day. So the most basic form of cross training is the good old gym routine that is composed of an aerobic (cardiovascular), strength and flexibility component. An example would be to cycle on a stationary bike for 30 minutes, lift weights for 45 minutes, and stretch for 10-15 minutes. If your workout routine looks something similar to this, congratulations! You are already cross training!

Of course, there are many other ways to spice up your workout so you don't get bored and prevent overuse injuries at the same time. Here are suggestions to mix and match activities to make your own cross training program.

Start slowly when learning a new activity. This is the biggest mistake made in cross training. People assume that being fit for one kind of exercise means they are also fit for other kinds. You might be a runner but that doesn't mean you can do an advanced step aerobics class immediately. Even though both are aerobic activities, they use the muscles in a different way. Running is a linear activity while step aerobics not only requires you to go up, down and all around a bench in different directions to the beat of the music but you also have to use your arms.

Not only should you work out at a lower intensity but you should also do it for a lesser amount of time than your regular workouts. Your body needs time to adjust to the new activity to avoid injury. Focus on learning the basics of the new activity. Proper form and execution are vital to getting the best results and preventing unnecessary injuries.

Choose activities that complement each other. Yoga and kickboxing are two totally different formats, which balance out the strengths and weaknesses of each program. Yoga is a mind-body type of activity that focuses inward while kickboxing is a let-all-your-aggressions-out workout. Yoga builds strength and flexibility while kickboxing develops aerobic and muscular endurance in an explosive manner.

Alternate between lower and higher intensity activities to give your body time to recover. For example, walking is the lower intensity version of running. You can do alternate days or you can do two high-intensity days for every one low-to-moderate intensity day.

Alternate between different energy systems—aerobic and anaerobic. Aerobic activities use the large muscles in a continuous rhythmic fashion for 20 minutes or longer. Anaerobic activities are those with bursts of energy like lifting heavy weights, sprinting of any kind (cycling, swimming, running), jumps, and most sports of a stop-and-go nature (volleyball, basketball, soccer, etc).

Alternate high and low impact activity. The words "high and low impact" are usually associated with aerobic dancing but they apply to all other activities. Anything that keeps one foot on the floor at all times is considered a low impact activity. An example is walking. Anything that momentarily (it occurs so fast that you can only catch it on film in slow motion) has both feet off the floor is high impact. That means anything with a hop or jump. Running is a high impact activity. There are also non-impact forms of exercise like swimming (body weight is supported by the water) and cycling (the bike carries the weight of the body).

Alternate between indoor and outdoor activities. Walking on a treadmill has a different feel to walking outdoors. Not only does the ground move under you, but also walking outdoors gives you sights, sounds and smells that walking indoors doesn't. On the other hand, watching TV while you walk is only possible on a treadmill. Alternating between indoor and outdoor exercise might be just the boredom-buster that you need to keep you motivated.

If you are the kind of person who never gets bored with your exercise routine and you get stressed if you have to make any changes, then cross training is not for you—psychologically speaking. There is no need to force yourself to cross train as long as you are happy with your results, you do not have any overuse injuries and you have a complete workout (cardiovascular, strength and flexibility).

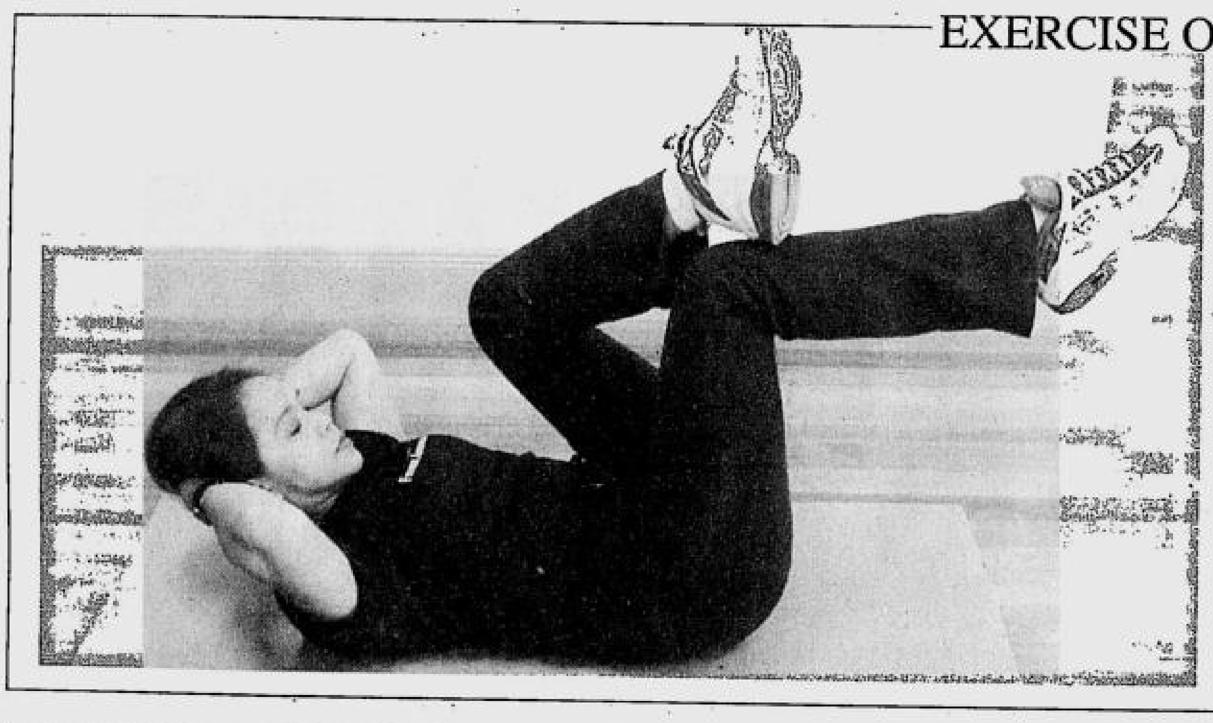
If you are a competitive athlete, cross train only during your off-season. Stick to your sport and basic fitness/sports - specific conditioning routine when training during the pre-season and on-season. Cross training with other sports during these periods will not be to your benefit. During the pre-season, you need to concentrate on building up your strength and stamina, rehabilitating any past injuries and improving your skills for your specific sport. During the in-season, you don 't have time to focus on anything else but maintaining your fitness and skill level. Remember that as an athlete, your goal is to win. You have to be a master at what you do. Unlike recreational athletes, you can't afford to be a "jack of all trades."

* * *

The Association of Fitness Professionals of the Philippines will hold a free networking breakfast for gym owners and managers on Oct. 11 at Pinnacle Healthpointe Gym, Triple Health Plaza, 36 Scout Torillo St., Timog, QC. Topic is "The Gym-Spa Connection." Call Edgar Lim at 252-9906/9170.

For past articles and exercises, go to http://www.tinajuanfitness.com

EXERCISE OF THE WEEK



Cross-legged abdominal crunch 2

STRENGTHENS, tightens and firms the abdominal muscles.

Equipment:
Exercise mat

Exercise technique:

1. Lie back with knees bent. Cross one leg over the other by putting heel on knee.
2. Keep the knee of the crossed leg in line with the center of your body.
3. Curl the legs off the floor and hold. Curl the torso off the floor and hold.
4. Lower the legs then lower the torso.
5. That equals one repetition.

Performance tips:

1. When lowering the legs down, tighten abdominal muscles so the spine does not overarch.
2. There are two other variations you can do:
    a. Lift the legs, then lift the torso, then lower both the legs and torso simultaneously.
    b. Lift both legs and torso simultaneously. Lower the legs, then lower the torso.

Repetitions:
Do 8-10 repetitions per leg.

Visit www.tinajuanfitness.com for Cross-legged abdominal crunch 1

Take Charge Doc!

Nicky S. Montoya, M.D.

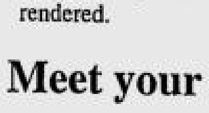
MEDICard
Presented by Avesta

Looking to learn more about your benefits under your MEDICard coverage? Do you want to be clear on the procedures, which allow you to avail of MEDICard's services? Get your information straight from MEDICard's Medical Director, DR. NICKY S. MONTOYA every Tuesday.

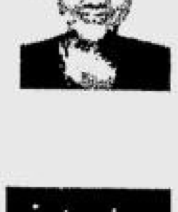
FAQs (frequently asked questions)

Does my healthcare program with MEDICard cover vehicular accidents?
Yes, coverage for vehicular accidents is included in your HMO program. Coverage for injuries sustained from an accident will fall under maximum limits for dreaded diseases. Coverage will also be subject to the nature of the accident. If injuries are caused by an act or omission of a third party, MEDICard will require the member to submit a Police Report and a Letter of Subrogation. The subrogation letter transfers to MEDICard whatever rights the member may have by reason of such accident or event that gave rise to it to the extent of the value of the services so rendered.

Meet your MEDICard Team



Pediatric specialist, **Dr. Mary Therese M. Leopando** is MEDICard's accredited service provider at Medical City General Hospital (MCGH). After taking Medicine in UERM-MMC, she decided to specialize in Pediatrics with residency training also from the Medical City and further subspecialized in Pulmonology from the Philippine Children's Medical Center. Dr. Leopando is a Diplomate to the Philippine Pediatric Society and the Philippine Academy of Pediatric Pulmonologists and has special interest in sleep disorders and snoring conditions of children. Doc Mary is one of the recent additions to our medical service team. Visit her for your consultation needs at the Medico Bldg., room 415 every Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9 AM to 12 noon.



Orthopedic surgeon **Dr. Enrique C. Collantes, Jr.**, is MEDICard's accredited specialist at Manila Central University Hospital. Doc Enrique earned his degree in Medicine from MCU and has been practicing his profession for more than 17 years now. He earned his residency in Orthopedics from Jose Reyes Medical Center in 1984. Dr. Collantes is a Diplomate and Fellow to the Philippine Orthopedic Association and the Philippine College of Surgeons. For your consultation, look for Dr. Enrique Collantes at the MCU Hospital every Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 10 AM to 12 noon.

Dr. Exconde Edmundo Gemil is MEDICard's accredited surgeon in Nazareth General Hospital, Dagupan City. The former president of the Philippine College of Surgeon, Northern Luzon Chapter is a Medicine graduate from Manila Central University and is the current Director of the Nazareth Hospital. Doc Exconde is active in civic activities. He is the former president of The Rotary Club of Dagupan. He is also a Fellow to the Philippine College of Surgeons and the International College of Surgeons and has been in practice of the profession for over 44 years. Dr. Gemil is a health buff and spends his free time exercising at the gym or taking brisk walks. For your consultation needs, look for Dr. Gemil from Mondays to Saturdays, 9 AM to 2 PM.

We encourage all MEDICard members to voice out their concerns and issues at hand. BE HEARD AND BE READ. You can write DR. NICKY S. MONTOYA at 9/F Sagittarius Bldg. H.V. De la Costa St., Salcedo Village, Makati City or e-mail him at inquiry@medicardphils.com.

For individual or family membership inquiries, please call 818-2161 and look for Ms. Joy Mendiola. For group or corporate membership, please call 817-5136, 817-4985 or 817-5127 and look for a membership consultant.

TEXT MEDICard for your queries: 0917-7518365 (Globe) or 0919-2476240 (Smart). Please don't forget to include your complete name and landline number where MEDICard could reach you. *Log on to www.medicardphils.com*

MEDICard is the first and only HMO in the Philippines and the whole Asian region to be ISO 9002 certified.

BVQI ISO 9002 UKAS

AMATEUR Standard champions

Dancesport championship held at Ninoy Aquino Stadium

THE DANCESPORT Council of the Philippines recently staged the 5th National Dancesport Championship-Alaxan Cup at the Ninoy Aquino Stadium, with more than 200 dancing couples competing in various categories.

The 5th Mid-year Ranking and Competition-Alaxan Cup was held July 14. Wolfgang Opitz, a coach of world-class dancers and champions, was present to teach and adjudicate. The mid-year ranking winners proceeded to compete in the Standard and Latin disciplines at the IDSF Asia-Pacific Championship held in Sydney, Australia on Sept. 22. The Philippines representatives, Belinda Adora and Genice Marquez, placed fourth in this championship.

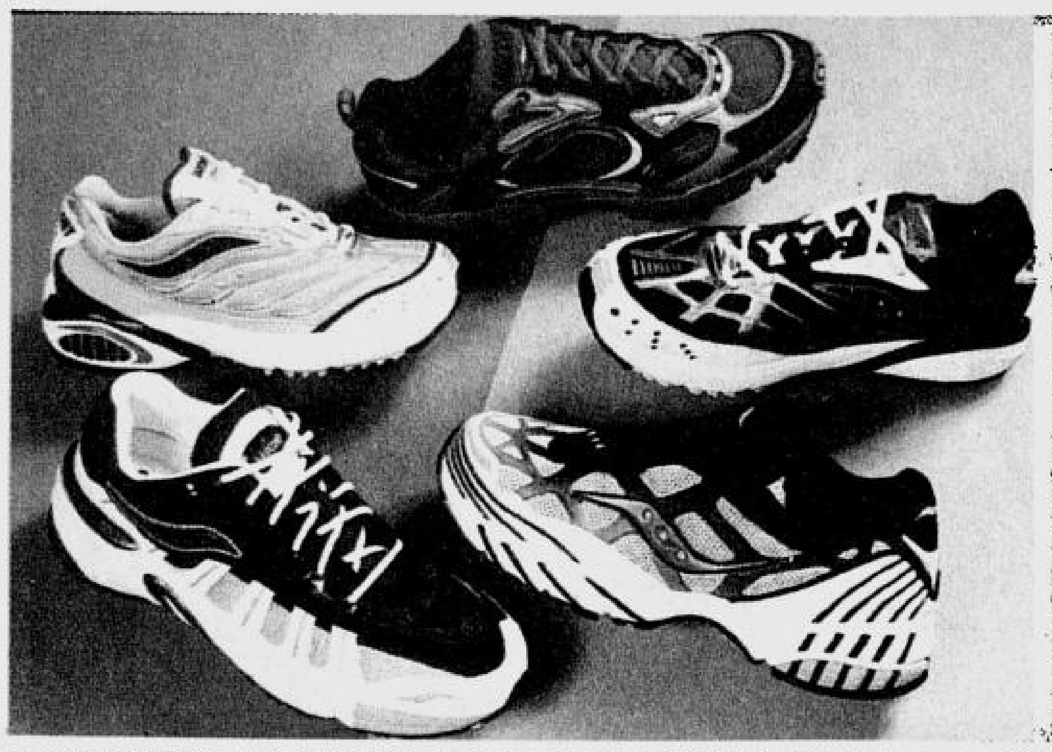
Dancesport is the newest sport included in the Batang Pinoy Program of the Philippine Sports Commission. All national sports associations were required to conduct workshops in several cities for representatives and teachers from DECS and the local government to be able to disseminate their knowledge to kids ages 8-11 years old to prepare them for the Philippine National Youth Games to be held in December in Bacolod. The first city was Baguio for Regions I-II and CAR where DSCP secretary general, lawyer Jo Saliva, was the facilitator followed by Pasig at Philsport Complex, Bacolod, and General Santos all facilitated by Vikky Cabrera, Dancesport Training Center OIG.

For this year's national dancesport championship, UK Professional Open Rising Star Champions and European Ten-Dance Champions John Byrnes and Jane Lyttleton conducted workshops on Sept. 27 and 28. The Dancesport Championship 2001 will be held on Oct. 13 and 14 in Taipeh.

The following is the list of champions: William Bernardino and Cynthia Tajon, Juvenile Standard; Russel Naval and Rizza Mael Valdez, Juvenile Latin; Reynier Mercado and Judith Anne Melencio, Junior Standard; Reynier Mercado and Judith Anne Melencio and Errol Melencio and Krystel Dame Tadeo, Junior Latin (a tie); Brian Ocana and Stacey Ocana, Youth Standard; Brian Ocana and Stacey Ocana, Youth Latin; Edward Sanz and Deborah Alley, One Dance Adult Standard; Mark Sagarbarria and Gemville de la Cerna, One Dance Adult Latin; Leo Linga and Michiyo Sakama, One Dance Pro-Am Standard; Eric Labita and Marlan Manguba, One Dance Pro-Am Latin; Edward Hayco and Elen Hayco, Senior Standard; Leo Linga and Michiyo Sakama, Two-Dance Adult Standard; Tom Ingan and Gemville de la Cerna, Two Dance Adult Latin; John Ma and Lynn Olive, Two Dance Senior Latin; Leonardo Telabangco and Haidee Adora, Pre-Am Standard; Miguel de la Cerna and Shirley Basan, Pre-Am Latin; Edgar Borromeo and Ana Yango, Amateur Standard; Bong Marquez and Belinda Adora, Amateur Latin.

JUNIOR LATIN CHAMPIONS. Reynier Mercado and Judith Melencio, Errol Melencio and Krystel Tadeo with Jane Lylleton

Fitness shoes that absorb shock



(**CLOCKWISE** from top): Grid Aura, Grid Icon for men, Grid Web, Grid Hammer and Grid Icon for women

SAUCONY, makers of high-quality athletic footwear since 1898, introduces a new and patented technology in its latest line of footwear, The Ground Reaction Inertia Device or GRID Cassette System.

This small cassette is made up of interwoven Hytrel elastomer that is inserted into a gap hollowed out in the heels of Saucony shoes. When the runner's heel hits the ground, the interwoven Hytrel strings bend to the shape of the heel, absorbing the shock. At the same time, the midsole compresses.

The GRID Cassette System gives better and essential heel cushioning, forefoot pressure dispersion and arch support. Saucony shoes are designed to absorb shock without sacrificing stability. It is the ultimate in control and support.

Serious runners and athletes from around the world continually remark on the increase in ride comfort and reduction of stress-induced injuries they experience from Saucony shoes. They are specifically developed to meet the biomechanical and specific needs of your feet.

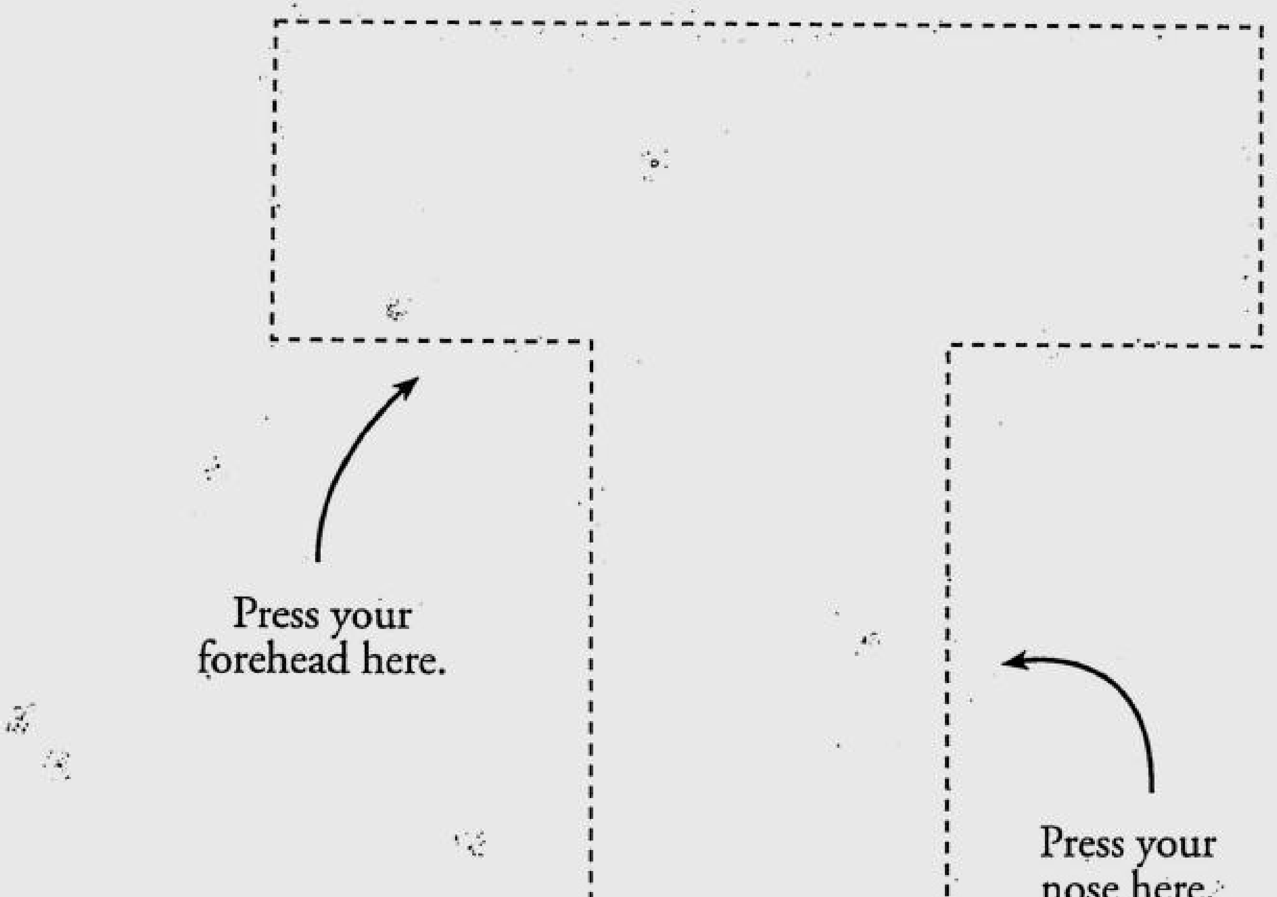
Now available at Royal Sporting House outlets—Ayala in Cebu, Glorietta 4, Robinsons Ermita, Festival Mall, Isetann-Recto, The Shoe Shop at Rockwell and Shangri-La Plaza and other sports stores. Prices range from P2,000-P4,000.

Health store offers flavorful products

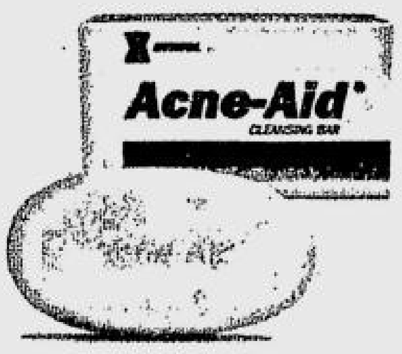
HEALTHY Options offers a natural and balanced approach to beauty and wellness through its natural products. Available at the one-stop nutrition store are UniSyn MRP2 Meal Replacement Powder, nutritionally complete shakes in delectable flavors which are ideal for adults undergoing a fitness training program. The new UniSyn from Universal Nutrition is enhanced with valuable dietary fiber, and also contains 26 required vitamins and minerals and up to 249 of efficient carbohydrates in the form of glucose polymers.

Check out the quality product lines at Healthy Options, 1/L, Shangri-La Plaza Mall, Mandaluyong City; Rustan's Supermarket, Makati City; 2/L, Festival Supermall, Filinvest, Alabang; G/L, Ayala Center, Cebu City; G/L SM City, North Edsa, QC; 2/L, SM City Manila; Greenbelt, Ayala Center, Makati City; and at 2/L, SM Megamall B, Mandaluyong City.

Take the T-zone Test for oily skin.



If a stain appears, then your skin is too oily.
Wash away excess oils that may cause pimples, blackheads and whiteheads with Acne-Aid.



Clears excess oil for good, like a derma would.

STIEFEL
Research in Dermatology

Acne-Aid® is a product of Stiefel. A multinational company with over 150 years of experience and dedication to research in dermatology. For product inquiries, call our ACTION-AID HOTLINE at 1-800-10-STIEFEL (provincial), and 635-7346 (Metro Manila), Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:00-11:30 a.m. You can also e-mail us at barcilla@stiefel.com or sjavier@stiefel.com. Available at all mercury drug stores and other leading drugstores, department stores and supermarkets nationwide.

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AA-04-01-PH

CITIBANK invades Ayala Malls!

Clothes, Bags, Shoes, atbp on installment

Citibank brings you exclusive treats from October 7 to 11, 2001!

Visit the Glorietta Activity Center for special perks and privileges:

FREE CITIBANK CREDIT CARDS
Turn in an application for Citibank Silver or Gold Visa or MasterCard and when approved, your first year annual fee will be waived. Save as much as P2,500!

ON-THE-SPOT REWARDS REDEMPTION
Hop over to Glorietta in Makati and pick your choice of Citibank Rewards items from the display. If you have enough Rewards points, it's yours.

BONUS REWARDS POINTS
Enroll your utility bills - telephone, electricity or cellular phone - with FastLink and get 500 Citibank Rewards Points, absolutely free.

Fast Link PAYMENT OPTIONS

DOUBLE AYALA DISCOUNT PLUS POINTS
Ayala Discount Plus cardholders earn double points for all purchases during the five-day period when shopping with Citibank credit cards.

READY CASH AT 0% INTEREST
Apply* for Ready Credit and when approved, enjoy interest-free loan for the next 90 days. Save more than P24,000 on interest when you avail of a P250,000 Ready Credit loan.

SOUVENIR PHOTO WITH FERRARI CAR
Fill-up an application form for a Shell-Citibank MasterCard and walk away with a souvenir photo - FREE - next to Michael Schumacher's winning Ferrari car.

October 7 to 11

More fun and surprises await visitors - check our daily activities below:

October 7, Sunday
10 am to 12 nn ●Kiddie Variety Show featuring Barbie Fashion, Magic Tricks, Face Painting and Balloon Sculpting
1:30 to 5 pm ●Hourly Raffle
●Ballet Show by Steps Dance Studio
●Phil. Philarmonic Orchestra in Concert
●Citi of Dreams: A Musical Presentation

October 8, Monday
3 to 5 pm ●Aero Kickboxing Marathon led by Fitness Expert Vanessa Garcia
●Let's Talk Fragrances by Image Consultant Olen Lim brought to you by Bulgari and Jean-Paul Gaultier
6 to 7 pm ●Jazz Fusion with John Lesaca

October 9, Tuesday
6 to 7 pm ●Fashion show by Sari-Sari featuring selections from the Citibank Rewards catalog

October 10, Wednesday
6 to 8 pm ●SOUTHBORDER in Concert

October 11, Thursday
4 to 8 pm ●Special Treats from PayLite and Globe

Admission is Free!

PayLite INSTALLMENT PLAN
The longer, the lighter!

Plus, the best shopping deals at Ayala Center Makati, Alabang Town Center and Ayala Center Cebu!

PayLite shopping spree
With your Citibank credit card, go ahead and indulge yourself at any of the Ayala Malls. From October 7 to November 30, 2001, you can avail of PayLite for single minimum purchases as low as P3,000, payable on 3 and 6 month installment terms.

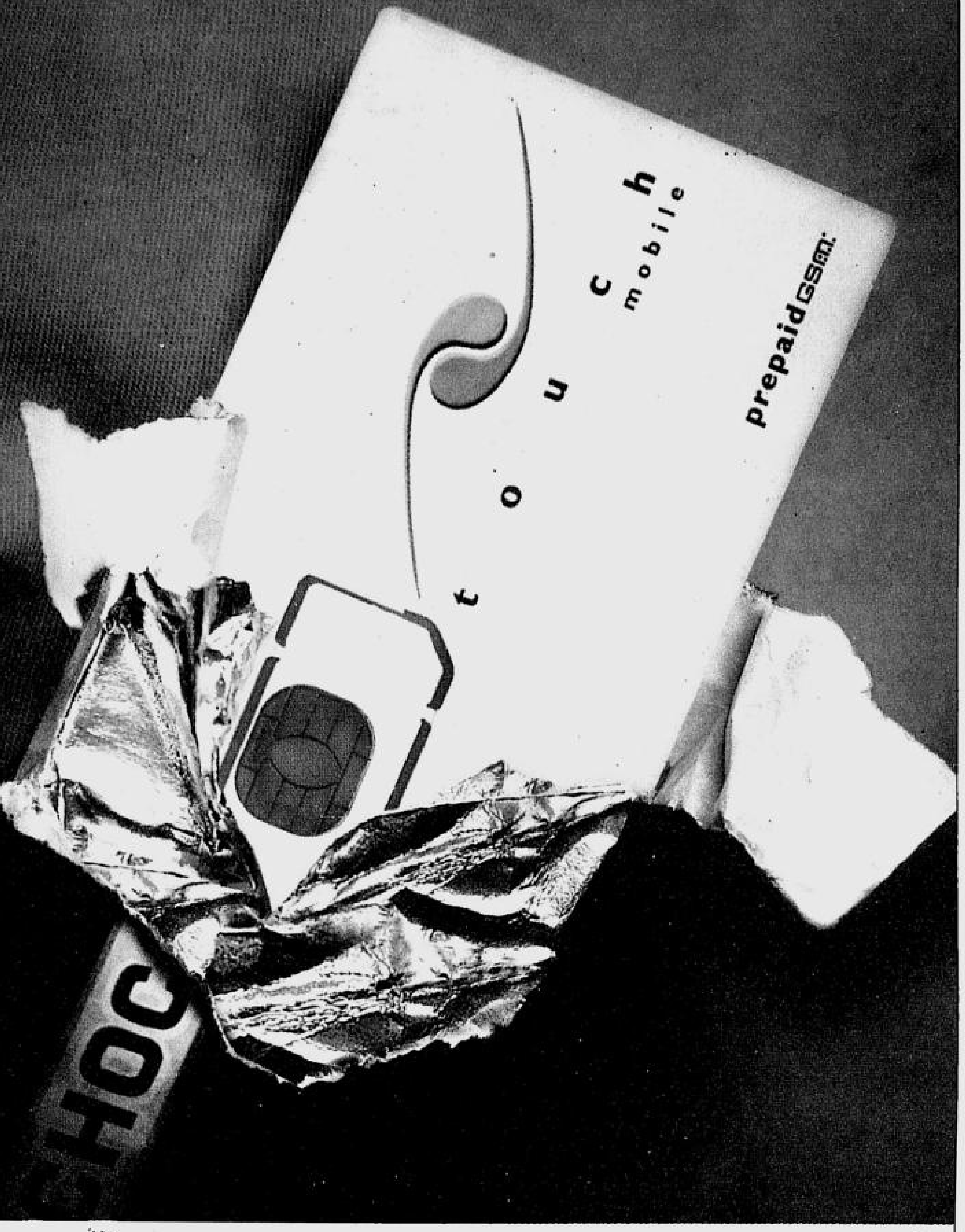
Zero and Reduced Interest Rates!
Visit participating establishments and avail of zero interest offers and reduced interest rates.

Switch to PayLite
For every single minimum spend of P3,000, you can "convert" your purchases to PayLite by presenting your Citibank sales slip at designated booths in Ayala malls. Choose from 3, 6, 9 or 12 month terms for more payment convenience.

CITIBANK

Try it.

Free trial* on our revolutionary voice services. We'll even give you a P200.00 discount when you swap your active SIM for it.



Here's a tempting offer.

Get to try:

Voice Info - a unique voice-based, voice-guided information service. No codes. No keywords.

Voice Messaging - Send more heartfelt messages, send your voice as a message. (Available by end of September)

And when you swap an active SIM, we'll give you a P200.00 discount on Touch Mobile SIMpacks and Phonekits.

It's our treat.

*Sample and swap Touch Mobile's unique services at the *Glorietta, Alabang Town Center, Ayala Center Cebu, Victoria Plaza Davao, SM Megamall**, SM North EDSA**, SM Cebu**, SM Iloilo*** or any Globe and Islacom Business Centers from Sept. 18 - Oct. 14, 2001.

**Starts on September 21, 2001.

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Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1457, Series of 2001.